



ECONOMIC INSIGHTS FROM INPUT-OUTPUT TABLES FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

JULY 2022

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Contents

Tables and Figures.....	vi
Foreword.....	ix
Acknowledgments.....	xi
Abbreviations	xiii
Executive Summary.....	xv
Highlights	xviii
1. Introduction	1
1.1 Background on the Use of Input–Output Tables.....	1
1.2 Objectives of this Publication.....	2
1.3 Multiregional Input–Output Tables.....	3
1.4 Constructing the Multiregional Input–Output Tables	5
1.4.1 Constructing the Domestic Tables	6
1.4.2 Constructing the Bilateral Trade Matrixes	9
1.4.3 Rest of the World.....	10
1.5 National Input–Output Tables.....	11
2. Domestic Multipliers and Linkages	13
2.1 Core Economic Indicators	13
2.2 Economic Sensitivity and Dependency	18
2.2.1 Multipliers	19
2.2.2 Intersectoral Linkages.....	29
2.3 Summary.....	43
3. International Linkages	47
3.1 Self-Sufficiency.....	47
3.2 Trade Orientation.....	51
3.3 Trade Openness.....	56
3.4 Domestic and Foreign Input Shares in Intermediate Inputs	60
3.5 Import Leakage Effects.....	62
3.6 Intraregional and Interregional Effects	65
3.7 Value-Added Trade Accounting.....	68
3.8 Global Value Chain Participation	70
3.9 Product Specialization	82
3.10 Production Lengths.....	87
3.11 Role of Domestic Sectors	92
3.12 Summary.....	95

4.	Estimating the Effects of COVID-19 Using Counterfactual National Input-Output Tables	99
4.1	Introduction	99
4.2	Counterfactual 2020 Methodology.....	101
4.2.1	Data Requirements.....	101
4.2.2	Construction of Final Demand	102
4.2.3	Leontief Quantity Model	102
4.2.4	Fixed Technology Assumption	103
4.2.5	Employment.....	104
4.3	Using the Counterfactual National Input-Output Table	105
4.4	Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Select Economies.....	106
4.4.1	Sector-Level Gains and Losses in Output.....	107
4.4.2	Sector-Level Gains and Losses in Value-Added.....	111
4.4.3	Sectoral Impact on Employment.....	115
4.4.4	Impact of COVID-19 on India's Economy.....	119
4.4.5	Overall Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic.....	120
4.5	Conclusion.....	122
5.	Establishing a Framework for Measuring the Digital Economy	124
5.1	Introduction	124
5.2	Measurement Challenges.....	125
5.3	The Input-Output Approach to Measuring the Core Digital Economy	127
5.4	Results for Select Economies.....	128
5.5	Conclusions and Way Forward	136
	Appendixes	137
5.1	Defining the Core Digital Product Groups.....	137
5.2	Contributions of Core Digital Sectors in 20 Economies	138
6.	Determining the Economic Contribution of Real Estate Activities	144
6.1	Background	144
6.2	Defining Real Estate Activities	146
6.3	Estimating the Contribution of Real Estate Activities	147
6.4	Proportions of Real Estate Construction	150
6.5	Economic Contribution of Real Estate-Related Activities	152
6.6	Limitations and Way Forward.....	153
	Appendixes	154
6.1	Definitions of Real Estate Activities	154
6.2	Review of Other Estimates of the Property Sector in the People's Republic of China.....	156

7. Economy Profiles	166
7.1 How to Read the Economy Profiles	166
7.2 Economy Rankings	167
7.3 Domestic Linkages	168
7.4 International Linkages	169
8. Technical Notes.....	174
8.1 Input–Output Tables	174
8.2 Core Concepts in Input–Output Analysis	175
8.3 Multipliers and Linkages.....	177
8.4 International trade and global value chains	180
8.4.1 Value-Added Trade Accounting.....	180
8.4.2 Export Decomposition	182
8.4.3 Global Value Chain Participation.....	184
8.4.4 Revealed Comparative Advantage	185
8.4.5 Position in Global Value Chains	186
8.5 Domestic Agglomeration	187
Appendix	191
Reference Guide to Mathematical Notations	191

Tables and Figures

Tables

1.1	Simplified Schematic of the Multiregional Input–Output Table	4
1.2	Minimum National Accounts Statistics for Compilation of Multiregional Input–Output Tables	7
1.3	List of Sectors in the Multiregional Input–Output Tables	8
2.1	Intersectoral Transactions in Intermediate Goods and Services	17
2.2	Classification of Key Sectors Using Normalized Backward and Forward Linkages	35
2.3	Results of Two-Way Analysis of Variance of Normalized Linkages, 2019	38
2.4	Classification of Key Sectors Using Net Backward and Net Forward Linkages.....	39
2.5	Results of Two-Way Analysis of Variance of Net Linkages, 2019.....	41
2.6	Applications of Multiplier and Linkage Indicators.....	44
6.1	Simplified Schematic of an Input–Output Table.....	148
6.2	Real Estate Construction as a Proportion of Total Construction Demand in Select Economies.....	151
7.1	Sector Title Abbreviations	172
8.2	Supplementary Input–Output Indicators	337
A5.1	Main Digital Product Groups Based on Central Product Classification Version 2	137
A5.2	Measures of the Core Digital Economy in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific	138
A6.1	Types of Activity Included in Real Estate Activities.....	154
A6.2	Differences in the Measurement of the Property Sector in the People’s Republic of China	160
A8.1	List of Mathematical Notations for Input–Output Indicators	191

Figures

1.1	Simplified Process for the Compilation of Multiregional Input–Output Tables	6
2.1	Composition of Final Demand of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Subregion.....	14
2.2	Sectoral Composition of Value-Added of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Subregion...	16
2.3	Intraregional Intermediate Transactions of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Sector.....	18
2.4	Simple Output Multipliers for the Top Two Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2019.....	22
2.5	Simple Output Multipliers for the Top Two Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020.....	23
2.6	Simple Value-Added Multipliers for All Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2019	25
2.7	Simple Value-Added Multipliers for All Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020	26
2.8	Type I Value-Added Multipliers for the Top Two Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific.....	28
2.9	Variations of Backward Linkages for the Top Sector of Select Economies in Asia and Pacific	31
2.10	Variations of Forward Linkages for the Top Sector of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific	34
2.11	Normalized Linkages of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific	36
2.12	Net Linkages of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific.....	40

2.13	Sectors with the Highest Value-Added Impact from a Hypothetical Extraction	43
3.1	Change in Output and Domestic Demand of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2019 to 2020.....	49
3.2	Sectors with the Highest Self-Sufficiency Ratios in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific.....	50
3.3	Trade Orientation of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific.....	52
3.4	Export Orientation Ratios of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Sector	53
3.5	Import Orientation Ratios of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Sector	54
3.6	Trade Openness of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific.....	57
3.7	Trade Openness of Select Economies in East Asia.....	58
3.8	Trade Openness of Select Economies in South and Central Asia	59
3.9	Trade Openness of Select Economies in Southeast Asia and the Pacific	60
3.10	Domestic and Foreign Input Shares of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific	61
3.11	Sectoral Distribution of Backward Leakages in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific, 2020	63
3.12	Import Leakages by Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020	65
3.13	Intraregional and Interregional Effects of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020.....	67
3.14	Components of Gross Exports by Subregion of Asia and the Pacific.....	70
3.15	Global Value Chain Participation Rate and the COVID-19 Shock to Economic Growth.....	72
3.16	Forward and Backward Global Value Chain Participation Rates, by Subregion	74
3.17	Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates, by Subregion and Economy.....	75
3.18	Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Primary Sectors	77
3.19	Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Low-Technology Manufacturing Sectors	78
3.20	Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Medium-to-High Technology Manufacturing Sectors.....	80
3.21	Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Business Services.....	81
3.22	Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Personal and Public Services	83
3.23	Revealed Comparative Advantage Indexes for Economic Sectors of Malaysia, 2020	85
3.24	Traditional and New Revealed Comparative Advantages in Select Sectors, 2020.....	86
3.25	Upstreamness Index by Sector in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific, 2020	89
3.26	Changes in Upstreamness Indexes of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2000 and 2020 ..	90
3.27	Positioning of Select Economies in the Global Value Chain for Electricals.....	91
3.28	Average Production Lengths of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020	92
3.29	Domestic Agglomeration Indexes of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020	94
4.1	Growth of Real Gross Domestic Product, by Subregion.....	100
4.2	Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Gross Output in Select Economies	108
4.3	Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Value-Added in Select Economies.....	112
4.4	Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Employment in Select Economies.....	116
4.5	Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on India.....	119
4.6	Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Output, Value-Added, and Employment in Select Economies.....	121
5.1	Share and Composition of the Core Digital Economy to Gross Domestic Product, 2019	130
5.2	Size of the Core Digital Economy in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific	131
5.3	Comparison of Core Digital Economy Estimates by Various International Organizations, 2014–2016.....	132

5.4	Compound Annual Growth Rates of Core Digital Sectors' Backward and Forward Linkages to the Economy, 2000–2020.....	134
5.5	Share of Digitally Dependent Sectors in the Core Digital Sectors' Forward Linkages to the Economy, 2019	135
6	Share of Real Estate Activity to Gross Domestic Product in Select Economies, 2017	152
8.1	Decomposition of Value-Added by Sector Based on Forward Linkages.....	181
8.2	Decomposition of Value-Added by Sector Based on Backward Linkages.....	182
8.3	Export Decomposition Framework.....	183
A6.1	Change in Share of Real Estate Activities to Total Gross Domestic Product for 2017, Comparing 2020 and 2021 Methodologies.....	163

Foreword

Since the 1990s, trade liberalization and fragmentation of production processes have made national economies more interconnected and interdependent. Global value chains (GVCs) have created new opportunities and benefited developing economies through enhanced trade, transfer of technology and knowledge, and expansion of services within the manufacturing sector. All these outcomes lead to greater economic growth for low- and middle-income economies. Similarly, advanced economies gain from GVCs by outsourcing to economies that have greater comparative advantages.

Supply and use tables and input–output tables (IOTs) are tools that, when constructed and interpreted correctly, provide a comprehensive view of the world’s economy by analyzing economic interdependencies between different sectors and regions. Information captured by IOTs can be used to analyze and address some of the world’s most pressing issues (such as estimating the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic), to understand the varying degrees of digitalization across economies, or to measure the extent to which economies are engaged in GVCs.

A multiregional input–output (MRIO) table is an extended version of an IOT that takes intersectoral and cross-border economic flows into account. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) implemented an initiative in 2014 to produce and regularly update its MRIO database in a bid to address the demand for a more comprehensive approach to macroeconomic analysis. The ultimate goal of this initiative is to support research and subsequent policy formulation for economies around the world. Usage of the database has since expanded significantly, from analyzing GVCs to more cutting-edge issues such as the links between technology, trade, and environment, among others.

This publication serves as a central effort to present and collect statistical indicators and analytical results from the various applications of the MRIO database. It is the third in the series *Economic Indicators: Input–Output Tables*, which began in 2018, and covers extensive statistical data and insights on the patterns of trade and production relationships. This release features common economic statistics on production and consumption as well as analytical indicators generated both from established and more novel input–output frameworks. These indicators have a broad range of applications, from identifying important economic sectors to tracing value-added in production chains.

Aside from economic indicators, the publication features three supplementary chapters demonstrating the wide analytical use of IOTs. These chapters introduce a measurement framework to determine the size of core digital economies in the Asia and Pacific region; analyze the economic contribution of the real estate sector in these economies; and document the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the performance of these select economies.

I hope that the suite of economic indicators generated in this technical report will enable researchers, decision-makers, and those responsible for formulating policy to create solutions to critical economic challenges.

I want to thank all those who contributed to the publication: the consultants, the industry experts, ADB staff, and the official statistics agencies and other government organizations of economies participating in ADB's statistical and analytical capacity-building initiatives. I commend them for their dedication, cooperation, and hard work. We hope that this report will be a valuable resource for economic research and policy implementation—and will provide a way forward to a sustainable future.



Albert Park

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Acknowledgments

This publication is the third edition of *Economic Indicators for Asia and the Pacific* using input–output tables prepared by the Statistics and Data Innovation Unit (EROD–SDI) within the Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD) at the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The publication is the result of collaboration by government agencies and national statistics offices, made possible under ADB Regional Capacity Development Technical Assistance 8838: Updating and Constructing Supply and Use Tables for Selected Developing Member Economies. This initiative formed the key statistical foundations for building the [ADB Multiregional Input–Output Database](#). Since 2014, ADB has continued to maintain, update, and expand the tables to support economic analysis, operations, and other knowledge solutions. In this year’s publication, the initiative is supported by three projects: (i) Knowledge and Support Technical Assistance (KSTA) 9920: Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021–2023; (ii) KSTA 9646: Data for Development (Phase II); and (iii) KSTA 9624: Supporting Knowledge Solutions in Central and West Asian Countries.

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and Head, Statistics and Data Innovation Unit,
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Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AEG	Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts
APL	average production length
BATIS	balanced trade in services
BEC	broad economic classification
CAGR	compound annual growth rate
CIF	cost, insurance, and freight
CII	changes in inventories
COVID-19	coronavirus disease
CPA	classification of products by activity
CPC	central product classification
DAVAX	directly absorbed value-added exports
DVA	domestic value-added
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
FIGARO	Full International and Global Accounts for Research in Input–Output Analysis
FOB	free on board
FVA	foreign value-added
GDP	gross domestic product
GFC	global financial crisis
GFCE	government final consumption expenditure
GFCF	gross fixed capital formation
GVA	gross value-added
GVC	global value chain
HEM	hypothetical extraction method
HFCE	household final consumption expenditure
HS	harmonized system
ICIO	intercountry input–output
ICT	information and communication technology
IFS	international finance statistics
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IOT	input–output table
ISIC	International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities
IT	information technology
ITS	international trade statistics
Lao PDR	Lao People’s Democratic Republic
LQM	Leontief quantity model
MRIO	multiregional input–output
MRIOOT	multiregional input–output table

NAS	national accounts statistics
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
NBS	National Bureau of Statistics (People's Republic of China)
NIOT	national input–output table
NPISHs	nonprofit institutions serving households
NSC	National Statistical Committee (Kyrgyz Republic)
NSO	national statistics office
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PBX	public branch exchange
PDC	pure double-counting
PPI	producer price index
PRC	People's Republic of China
PREDICT	Prospective Insights on Research and Development and Information and Communications Technology
PSTN	public switched telephone network
RCA	revealed comparative advantage
REER	real effective exchange rate
REF	reflection
REX	reexports
ROK	Republic of Korea
SAM	social accounting matrix
SARS	severe acute respiratory syndrome
SDA	structural decomposition analysis
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification
SNA	System of National Accounts
SUT	supply–use table
UN	United Nations
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
US	United States
USBEA	United States Bureau of Economic Analysis
VAX	value-added exports
VoIP	voice over internet protocol
WHO	World Health Organization
WIOD	World Input–Output Database

Executive Summary

Economic Insights from Input–Output Tables for Asia and the Pacific presents indicators and analyses covering 25 select economies in Asia and the Pacific for 2019 and 2020. The economies assessed in this publication are Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Kazakhstan; the Kyrgyz Republic; the Lao People’s Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; the People’s Republic of China; the Philippines; the Republic of Korea; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Taipei,China; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

Underpinning all statistics and analyses is the Asian Development Bank’s Multiregional Input–Output Database, which contains national and bilateral sectoral flows for 62 national economies. These economies comprised more than 90% of the world’s gross domestic product (GDP) in 2020. Anchored on the 2008 System of National Accounts, the structure of the multiregional input–output tables (MRIOTs) is broadly described in the introduction, including the general sources and methods for compilation of these tables. Due to more disaggregated information contained in the MRIOTs, the number of analyses has significantly expanded since 2015, in parallel with major developments in the global economy. As such, this publication serves to centralize this additional knowledge by presenting a consolidated database of all major statistical and analytical indicators based on an input–output framework.

As a preview of these indicators, the chapter on **domestic linkages** describes the basic economic aggregates, multipliers, and linkages from a national input–output table (NIOT). By construction, the orientation of analysis in a NIOT puts emphasis on domestic sectors’ supply and use relationships and their capacity to induce economic growth or contraction in the local economy. Variants of multipliers and measures of linkages are presented with the objective of quantifying a sector’s impact on, and contribution to, the domestic economy. Findings from this chapter reveal that, while final demand in 2020 generally contracted in the select economies of the Asia and Pacific region, output multipliers expanded on average as a result of increased intersectoral trade. Further, analysis of linkages highlights the economic importance of food and beverage manufacturing and refined petroleum sectors across several economies in the region.

The domestic–based analysis is extended in the subsequent chapter on **international linkages**. This chapter presents indicators that explicitly link domestic sectors to foreign suppliers and consumers. Given that foreign inputs are embedded in domestic outputs and exports, a frequent element in the indicators described is the need to disentangle the sources and uses of value-added embodied in a product. Presented indicators range from simple measures such as trade-to-GDP ratios, to more sophisticated metrics such

as global value chain participation rates. Generally, these indicators show the degrees of interdependence of an economy or sector to global trade. Meanwhile, some indicators serve to highlight the dominant features of global production, such as identifying what economies do best (i.e., revealed comparative advantage), how products reach the market (i.e., position and production length), and how supply chain decisions are affecting product sourcings (i.e., agglomeration indices). For example, analysis shows that international trade receded from 2019 to 2020, which meant lower global value chain participation across sectors and economies in the region. However, domestic markets provided some cushion against the global trade slowdown, as evidenced by heightened agglomeration indices in 2020.

Application of the input–output framework is expanded to special chapters on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the digital economy, and the real estate sector on economic growth in economies of Asia and the Pacific.

The chapter on **estimating the economic effects of COVID-19** uses counterfactual NIOTs to disentangle the observed and unrealized impacts of the pandemic through an input–output framework. The methodology puts emphasis on measuring the output, income, and employment performance of economies in a “no pandemic” scenario. Results highlight that these unrealized effects had a commensurate, if not substantial, impact on economies (as compared to the observed changes) from 2019 to 2020. Value-added impacts ranged from –3.2% to –12.3% for 2020, while employment levels were impacted by –1.6% to –16.7% in select economies.

The chapter on **establishing a framework for measuring the digital economy** operationalizes a proposed input–output approach for capturing the wholesale contribution of digital sectors to select economies. Core digital sectors were first defined and extracted from the NIOTs, thereby enabling the calculation of backward and forward linkages of these identified sectors with the rest of the economy. Statistics reveal that the digital economy in Asia and the Pacific varied across economies, ranging from about 1.5% to 17.9% of GDP in 2019.

The chapter on **determining the economic contribution of real estate activities** demonstrates a fresh perspective on measuring an economy’s exposure to changes in the real estate sector. In response to growing concerns about the property sector’s vulnerability, the chapter defines the relevant activities, from real estate construction to lease and management of properties, and correspondingly uses the details in the MRIOTs to quantify the share of real estate activities to GDP. Findings suggest that few economies exhibit real estate activity shares of more than 20%, with only Japan and the People’s Republic of China achieving this level in 2017, while Thailand posted the lowest rate of 5.4% among the select economies.

In addition to the relevant applications of input–output analysis, the publication’s **economy profiles** present a high-level summary of compiled indicators for each of the 25 select economies in Asia and the Pacific. This section is followed by a technical description of methodologies and introduces the standard class of Leontief and Ghosh models, which underlie the suite of input–output indicators referenced throughout the publication.

The datasets, profiles, and input–output tables are accessible through the publication’s web page. The data presented in this publication are not official statistics. Production and trade data from various sources are integrated into the input–output economic analysis framework and adjusted as required to conform to specific macroeconomic concepts. As such, data and statistics presented herein could differ from relevant official statistics.



Full publication datasets can be accessed online:

National Input–Output Tables for Asia and the Pacific, 2000, 2007–2020

East Asia

Hong Kong, China
Japan
Mongolia
People’s Republic of China
Republic of Korea
Taipei, China

South and Central Asia

Bangladesh
Bhutan
India
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyz Republic
Maldives
Nepal
Pakistan
Sri Lanka

Southeast Asia and the Pacific

Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
Fiji
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Lao People’s Democratic Republic
Malaysia
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Economy Profiles

East Asia

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Japan
Mongolia
People’s Republic of China
Republic of Korea
Taipei, China

South and Central Asia

Bangladesh
Bhutan
India
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyz Republic
Maldives
Nepal
Pakistan
Sri Lanka

Southeast Asia and the Pacific

Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
Fiji
Indonesia
Lao People’s Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Philippines
Singapore
Thailand
Viet Nam

Analytical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific, 2000, 2007–2020

[Click here to access the full dataset of input–output economic indicators](#)

Multiregional Input–Output Tables for 2000, 2007–2020

[Click here to access the tables as of July 2021](#)

Highlights

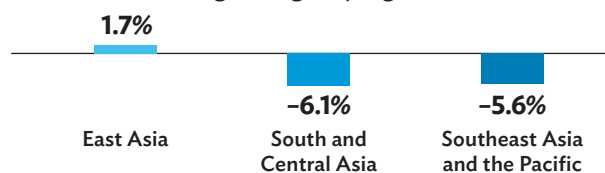
This publication features a broad suite of statistical indicators characterizing the supply-and-use interactions of economic sectors within and across 25 economies of Asia and the Pacific. The indicators include sector- and economy-specific multipliers and linkages, trade orientation and openness, participation in global value chains, patterns of product specialization, and domestic agglomeration, among many others. Supplementing these analyses are special chapters on the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the digital economy, and real estate activities.

ADB's Multiregional Input-Output Tables consist of:

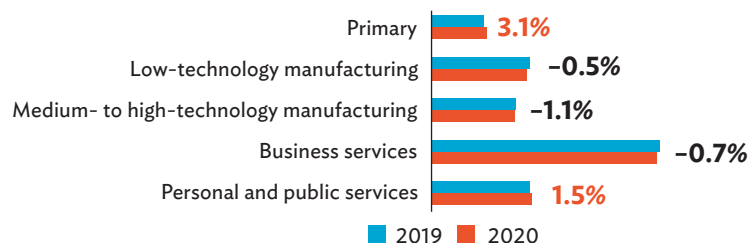
62 economies around the world, representing about **90%** of the world's gross domestic product (GDP) in 2020, and featuring **25** economies from the Asia and Pacific region.

GDP for the economies of Asia and the Pacific exhibited a slight decline of **0.1%** from 2019 to 2020.

East Asia managed to expand its GDP by **1.7%** in 2020, while the other subregional groupings suffered losses.

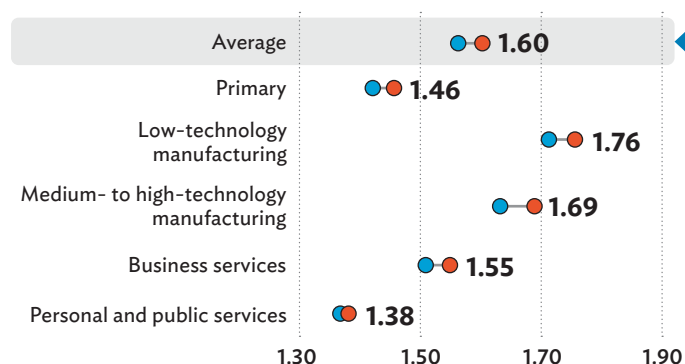


Value-added in Asia and the Pacific was dominated by business services in 2020...



...but the **primary sector (agriculture and mining)** and **personal and public services (government services, community, social, health, education)** experienced growth in 2020.

In 2020, economies in the region generally increased their **output multipliers** across sectors.

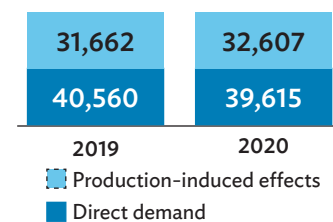


For every **\$1** unit of demand, on average, **\$0.6** more units were produced economy-wide.

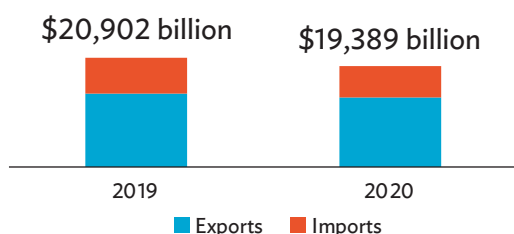
Gross output of the 25 economies in 2020 reached \$72,222 billion.

Direct demand declined by **2.3%** from 2019

but **production-induced effects** grew by **3.0%**.

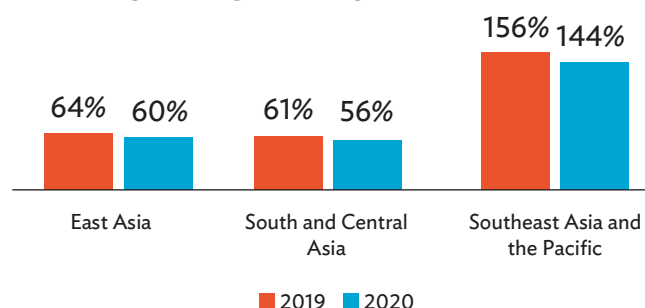


The region's sum of trade contracted by **7%** in 2020.

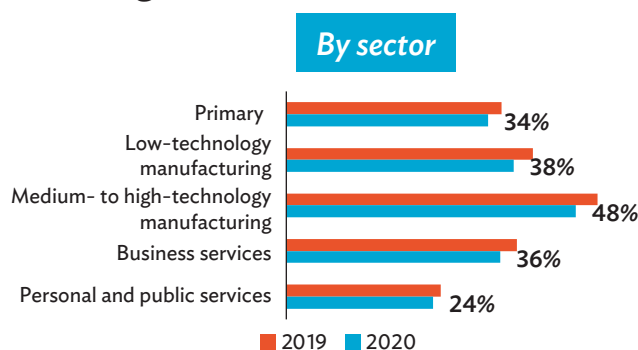
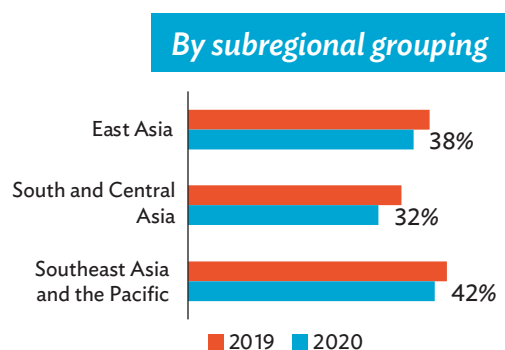


By subregional grouping:
 East Asia's total trade declined by **4.5%**,
 South and Central Asia by **13.7%**, and
 Southeast Asia and the Pacific by **12.5%**.

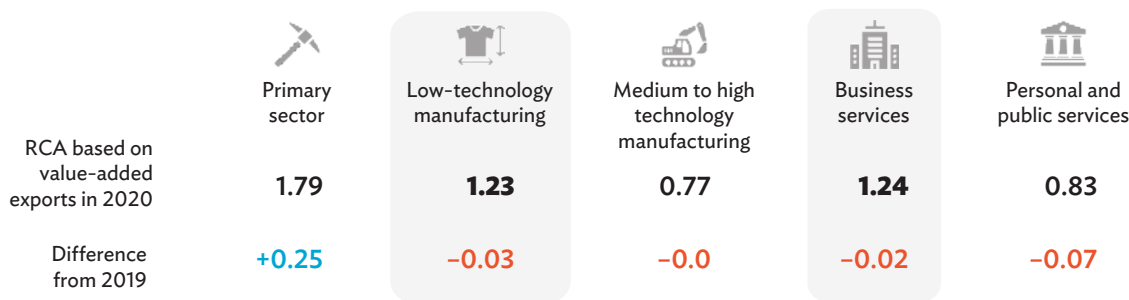
Similarly, 2020 saw reduced trade-to-GDP ratios across the subregional groupings.



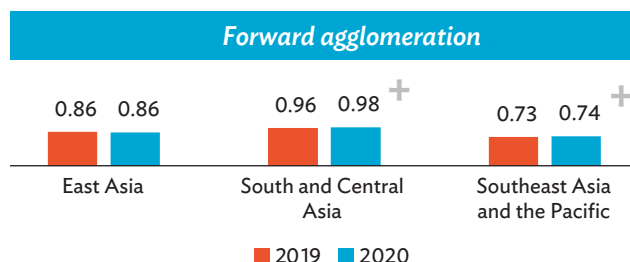
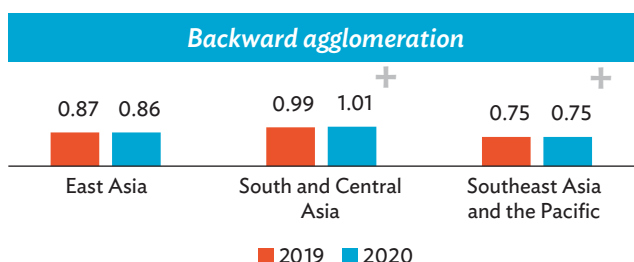
Lower trade in 2020 influenced **participation in global value chains**.



Limited participation led exporting economies to lose some **revealed comparative advantages (RCA)** across sectors, except in primary products.



However, domestic markets compensated for the slowdown in trade as evidenced by average increases in **domestic agglomeration**.

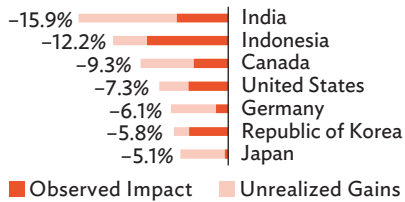


SPECIAL APPLICATIONS OF THE INPUT-OUTPUT FRAMEWORK

COVID-19

While economies in 2020 generally performed worse than the previous year by observed measures, the **COVID-19 pandemic** also disrupted economies' growth trajectories, leaving potential gains in output, value-added, and employment unrealized.

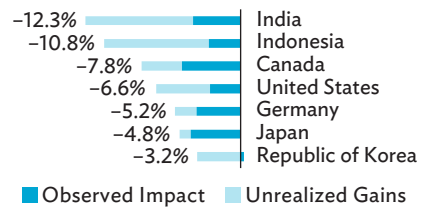
GROSS OUTPUT



In terms of output, India suffered a decline of **15.9%** from 2019 to 2020, while Japan contracted by about **5.1%**, with the majority of these declines attributable to unrealized gains.

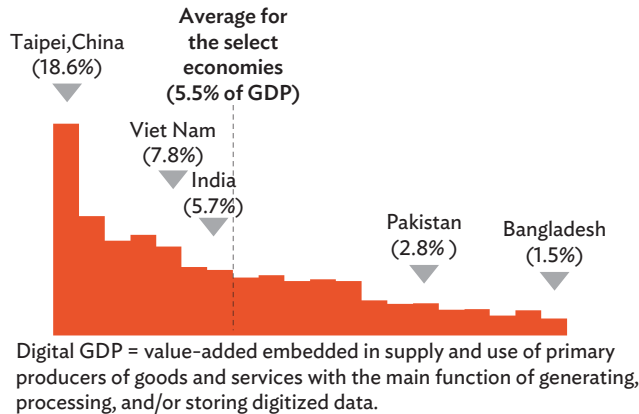
The Republic of Korea showed a modest increase of **0.3%** in value-added, but the economy's potential gains of about **3.4%** in 2020 were *not* realized due to the pandemic, thereby netting a negative impact of **3.2%**.

VALUE-ADDED



DIGITAL ECONOMY

Digital economies in the region ranged from **1.5%** to **18.6%** of respective economy-wide GDP in 2020.



Some economies were predominantly **digital goods-producing**, such as:
Taipei, China
Viet Nam



while some were mainly engaged in software and **digital services**, such as:
India
Pakistan

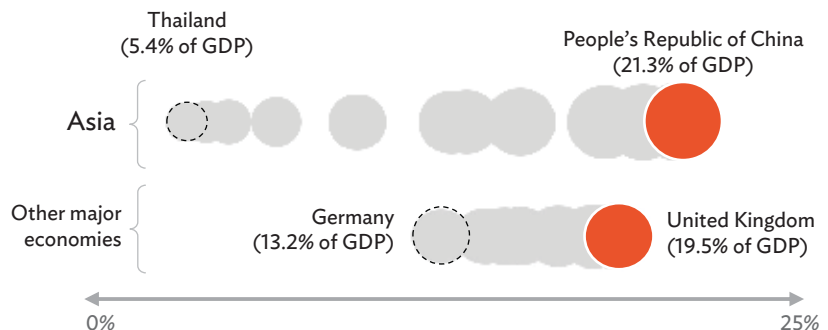


Broadly, economies in the region showed high activities in **telecommunications**.

REAL ESTATE

The real estate sector in economies of Asia and the Pacific exhibited wide-ranging shares of total GDP, with the highest proportion recorded in the People's Republic of China.

On average, shares of real estate activities to GDP were higher in more advanced economies compared to select economies of developing Asia.



This chapter introduces the ADB Multiregional Input–Output database, which underpins all statistical and analytical indicators in this report. The sources and methods for compiling the multiregional input–output tables are briefly described, as are some of the key practices for addressing limitations in the data. These tables span economic data on both national and international transactions and are therefore applicable in various analyses of an economy. Results from some of these applications are featured in this publication, including the national input–output tables for 25 economies in Asia and the Pacific.

1.1 Background on the Use of Input–Output Tables

Input–output tables (IOTs) serve many purposes. Accounts of their first use date back to the late 1930s, particularly to assist with post-war recovery and central planning. Wassily Leontief, the pioneer of input–output analysis, used these tables in the 1960s to determine how to sustain employment in the United States economy as the government withdrew from high military spending (Dietzenbacher and Lahr 2004; Mukhopadhyay 2018). Other major economies undertook similar exercises in the early years of IOTs—from production targeting in the centrally planned economies of the Soviet Union to incentivizing predetermined sectors in the market economies of France and the Netherlands (Lequiller and Blades 2014).

The use of IOTs evolved to become a framework for income accounting and they have since been applied to the analyses of issues such as trade, investments, employment, and productivity. At the turn of the millennium, IOTs continued to be relevant in analyzing novel issues, including global value chains, robotics and artificial intelligence, human health and wellness, disasters and pandemics, digitalization, gender equity, and climate change, among many others. While the applications of IOTs can be diverse, the common theme through all the analyses is the concept of intersectoral linkages and how these can define movements of shocks and flows of economic value in a system.

Particularly, IOTs make visible the unintended consequences that certain policy actions can have and, more importantly, determine the mechanisms that underlie these impacts. Insights from the use of IOTs remain relevant and continue to challenge the convention on a wide range of economic issues. For example, unilateral border closures could impact other seemingly unaffected national economies; bilateral trade policies could benefit or disadvantage third-party economies; the imposition of tariffs

could impact the host economy. Meanwhile, in modern economies, small domestic producers can be part of large-scale, multinational production. Goods are becoming embedded with more intangibles than physical inputs. Digital service relies as much on hardware as it does on software. Economies can go carbonless, but still account for a sizable portion of pollution. Being able to establish and analyze connections between supply and demand, sources and destinations, and inputs and outputs is the hallmark of input-output analysis.

All these insights originate from the notion of interconnectedness in the modern economy. By constructing a disaggregated picture of the economy, IOTs can be useful in tracing the flows of goods and services that link any one region or sector to another. These linkages emerge from the supply and use relations of each sector with other sectors in the economy. For example, cotton is cultivated as an agricultural commodity. It is then processed to separate the lint and the seed. The lint is then converted into yarn, and the yarn into fabric. As these activities appear across different industries, the IOTs enable users to trace the value-added from growing the cotton to manufacturing the eventual fabric.

The same concept may be applied regardless of where these transactions take place. By identifying not only the specific industry from which value-added originates but also the economy (or region) where value addition takes place, one can easily see how the cotton grown in Pakistan is processed and transformed to fabrics in Viet Nam. This combination of national and international flows of products provides a powerful tool for analysis of global trade, global value chains, and many other extensions. An excellent introduction to input-output analysis is provided in Miller and Blair (2009), while a brief background is explained in ADB's *Economic Indicators: Input-Output Tables* (2018; 2020).

1.2 Objectives of this Publication

Given the relevance and wide range of applications for IOTs, this publication intends to present economic statistics and model-based indicators derived from such tables to stimulate research and collaboration in this field. It is the third release of a compendium of reports that includes *Economic Indicators for East Asia: Input-Output Tables*; *Economic Indicators for Southeastern Asia and the Pacific: Input-Output Tables*; and *Economic Indicators for South and Central Asia: Input-Output Tables*.¹ In this edition, new statistics on production linkages, multipliers, and global value chains are presented along with the indicators that come with standard input-output analyses. More notably, this release extends the period covered by previous editions to include data for the years 2019 and 2020.

¹ To access IOT reports for 2018, 2020, and 2022, go to <https://www.adb.org/publications/series/economic-indicators-input-output-tables>.

As a statistical compendium, this publication centralizes and documents efforts by ADB to contribute to the growing knowledge of input–output analysis. It is not only intended to complement the study of intersectoral and international production systems, but also to encourage the development and expansion of input–output literature. Overall, the objective is to provide statistical evidence of the complex and dynamic nature of economic production and its interlinked relationships.

Given the extensive applicability of IOTs, the suite of indicators presented in this edition is divided into two major sections: domestic linkages and international linkages. A demonstration of these indicators' potential uses can be found in Chapters 2 and 3.

This release also features special chapters on three topical economic issues. The chapter on COVID-19 documents the observed and unrealized economic performance of Asian economies at the onset of the pandemic in late 2019 through to the end of 2020. This is followed by a chapter presenting statistical indicators that define and measure the size of core digital industries in select economies of the Asia and Pacific region. A third special chapter measures the extent of economic growth that is driven by activities related to real estate in several major economies (both within and outside the region).

These special chapters are followed by economy profiles that present broad statistical results and indicators for each of the 25 participating economies in Asia and the Pacific.

The publication concludes with a technical description and mathematical formulation for each indicator generated for this report. Readers seeking further details and specific directions for replicating these results are directed to the sources indicated in the Technical Notes.

All datasets, including IOTs for each economy, may be accessed electronically by users through the [regional input–output tables webpage on ADB.org website](#). Please note that the data presented in this publication are not official statistics and are intended for research purposes only.

1.3 Multiregional Input–Output Tables

Underpinning all the indicators presented in this publication are IOTs derived primarily from ADB's Multiregional Input–Output (MRIO) database.² Since 2014, the MRIO database has been part of regular statistical releases by ADB. It builds strongly on the bank's Regional Capacity Development Technical Assistance (R-CDTA) 8838: Updating and Constructing Supply and Use Tables for Selected Developing Member Economies,

² These tables produced by the ADB MRIO database team can be accessed through <https://mrio.adbx.online/>.

from which several economies were able to produce benchmark supply and use tables (SUTs). These official SUTs serve as the core building blocks of the multiregional input-output tables (MRIOTs) and the basis for national input-output tables (NIOTs).³

The MRIO database contains a series of MRIOTs that provide a detailed view of economic relationships between 35 sectors of 62 distinct economies (which covered about 90% of global GDP as of 2020) plus a region labeled “rest of the world” (which proxies for all remaining economies). These tables build upon the World Input-Output Database (WIOD) published by the Groningen Growth and Development Centre (Timmer et al. 2015). The original 2016 release of WIOD covered 43 economies (6 of which were from Asia) for periods 2000 to 2014. With outcomes from the RCDTA 8838, the WIOD tables were then augmented to include 19 more economies from developing Asia. This initiative completed the 25 economies from the region that are featured in this publication (6 from WIOD and 19 from the ADB RCDTA 8838).

The simplified structure of the MRIO framework in this release is illustrated in Table 1.1, showing only three regions: economies A and B, and the rest of the world. This basic outline may be generalized for the 62 economies plus one region of the MRIO. In contrast to NIOTs, each use (in columns) is now split into rows separating products from

Table 1.1: Simplified Schematic of the Multiregional Input-Output Table

		Economy A	Economy B	Rest of the World	Economy A	Economy B	Rest of the World	Total
		Intermediate Use			Final Use			
Economy	Industry	c1...c35	c1...c35	c1...c35	F1...F5	F1...F5	F1...F5	
Economy A	c1 ⋮ c35	Intermediate use of domestic output	Intermediate use by B of exports from A	Intermediate use by RoW of exports from A	Final use of domestic output	Final use by B of exports from A	Final use by RoW of exports from A	Output of A
Economy B	c1 ⋮ c35	Intermediate use by A of exports from B	Intermediate use of domestic output	Intermediate use by RoW of exports from B	Final use by A of exports from B	Final use of domestic output	Final use by RoW of exports from B	Output of B
Rest of the World	c1 ⋮ c35	Intermediate use by A of exports from RoW	Intermediate use by B of exports from RoW	Intermediate use of domestic output	Final use by A of exports from RoW	Final use by B of exports from RoW	Final use of domestic output	Output of RoW
		Value-added of A	Value-added of B	Value-added of RoW				
		Output of A	Output of B	Output of RoW				

RoW = rest of the world.

Source: M. Timmer (ed.), A.A. Erumban, R. Gouma, B. Los, U. Temurshoev, G.J. de Vries, I. Arto, V.A.A Genty, F. Neuwahl, J.M. Rueda-Cantucho, A. Villanueva, J. Francois, O. Pindyuk, J. Poschl, R. Stehrer, and G. Streicher. 2012. The World Input-Output Database (WIOD): Contents, Sources, and Methods. IIDE Discussion Papers. No. 20120401. Institute for International and Development Economics.

³ The structure of supply-use tables differs in each compiling economy. As necessary, these official tables are harmonized to a common statistical classification of products and sectors and are subsequently transformed to input-output tables following the industry technology assumption (“Model D”) discussed in European Commission (2008).

domestic and foreign origin. Meanwhile, each supply (in rows) is also split according to destination (i.e., domestic or foreign) and use (i.e., intermediate or final use).

This integration of national and international flows of products enables a comprehensive analysis of global production at a sectoral scale. As such, the MRIO database continues to be in demand for a wide range of applications and practical analyses of developments in the global economy. Notably, relevant topics include trade analysis, economic integration, tourism, impact evaluation of development policies and projects, and progress in gender equity, among others. MRIOTs have been used in key reports by international organizations and serve as the main source for regularly producing trade and global value chain statistics in ADB's flagship publication *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific*.⁴

1.4 Constructing the Multiregional Input–Output Tables

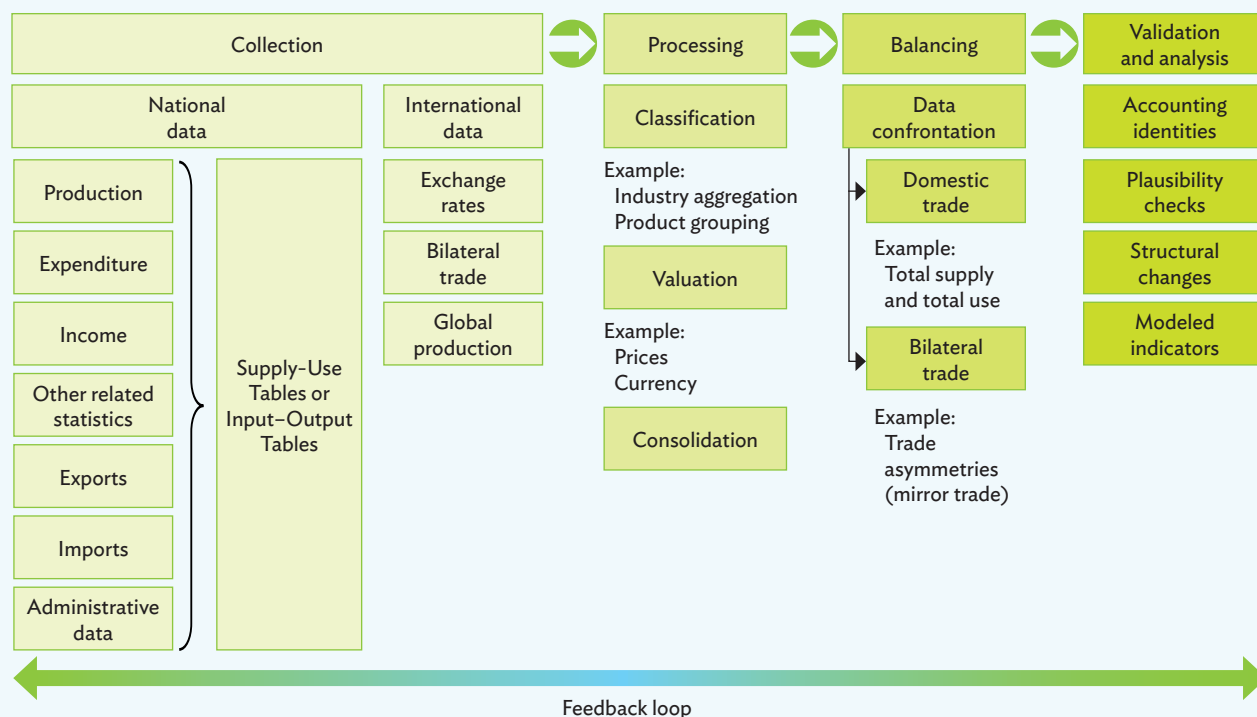
To better appreciate the statistics in this report, the underlying data sources and methods for the MRIOTs are introduced. Broadly speaking, the MRIOT construction process starts with NIOTs as the core building blocks. These tables are then linked across economies through detailed bilateral international trade statistics to construct the symmetric MRIOTs.

A broad overview of the compilation process of the MRIOTs is provided in Figure 1.1. The compilation starts with the collection of data from national and international sources, which are then processed to ensure consistency with statistical classifications and standard valuations. Once data are harmonized into a common format and valuation, the domestic (or national) and bilateral trade transactions are consolidated into a single compilation framework. This process allows examination of consistency among different statistical sources, thereby providing meaningful feedback on the quality of the underlying data. A preliminary balanced table is produced from a combination of manual and minimal automated balancing. These tables undergo a series of checks, primarily to investigate if the levels and changes in the table reflect economic reality. In addition, analytical models are replicated using these preliminary tables to address any potential errors that users may encounter. An example of these exercises includes checks using the value-added trade accounting discussed in Chapter 3.

Three main types of data are used in the entire process, namely SUTs, national accounts statistics (NAS), and international trade statistics. The data are sourced from officially published releases by national statistics offices (NSOs) as these figures typically undergo thorough validation procedures conducted at each NSO.

⁴ To access *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific for 2015–2021*, go to <https://www.adb.org/publications/series/key-indicators-for-asia-and-the-pacific>.

Figure 1.1: Simplified Process for the Compilation of Multiregional Input-Output Tables



Source: Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Database Team.

1.4.1 Constructing the Domestic Tables

The first two data types—SUTs or IOTs and NAS—serve to fulfill the main diagonal blocks of the MRIOT in Table 1.1. In principle, these two data sources should be no different from each other, since SUTs serve as a compilation framework for NAS. In practice, however, SUTs are constructed infrequently due to the data- and resource-intensive nature of their compilation. As such, most NSOs undertake SUT-related initiatives every 3 or 5 years.⁵ Moreover, when SUTs are available for certain years, these may not necessarily be comparable over time, with changes in the interim comprising both movements in the real economy and revisions in statistical practices. Since SUT compilation takes significant time, revisions might have already taken place in the national accounts, while the historical SUTs have not been updated. Hence, it is not uncommon to see some differences in the gross domestic product (GDP) figures between SUTs and NAS. Intermediate steps are therefore taken to update and harmonize SUTs based on consistent time-series from NAS.

⁵ A more detailed documentation of the compilation process is provided in ADB (2017) Compendium of Supply and Use Tables for Selected Economies in Asia and the Pacific (<https://www.adb.org/publications/compendium-supply-use-tables-selected-economies>).

To update SUTs or IOTs, time-series data on gross output, value-added by industry, taxes less subsidies on products, imports and exports, and final use by category are the minimum requirements (Table 1.2). The data are obtained from NSOs and, when available, are compared against international databases of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Eurostat, United Nations (UN) National Accounts Statistics, and ADB. As SUTs and NAS are in national currencies, the figures are converted to a common basis (United States dollars) using official exchange rates from the International Monetary Fund's International Finance Statistics.

Table 1.2: Minimum National Accounts Statistics for Compilation of Multiregional Input-Output Tables

Production Approach	Gross output by industry
	Gross value-added by industry
	Intermediate consumption by industry
	Net taxes on products
Expenditure Approach	Household final consumption expenditure
	Final consumption expenditure of NPISH
	Government final consumption expenditure
	Changes in inventories and acquisitions less disposals of valuables
	Gross fixed capital formation
	Exports of goods
	Exports of services
	Imports of goods
	Imports of services
Main Aggregate	Gross domestic product

NPISH = nonprofit institution serving households.

Source: Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Database Team.

Further, the data must be harmonized to a common industry classification. The current structure of the MRIOTs observes the International Standard Industrial Classification revision 3.1 (ISIC Rev. 3.1). For each classification variant, corresponding tables are built to link sectors in each national SUT and NAS to the level of detail and classifications in the MRIOT. This process involves aggregation when more detailed (sectoral) data are available. Conversely, disaggregation is needed when data are not published at the desired level of detail. As a general principle, the MRIO database prioritizes the use of published NSO data for disaggregation. Examples of these sources are turnover data from establishment surveys; economic censuses; merchandise, trade, construction, and industry statistics; and extended balance of payments statistics. In other cases, detailed data from other input-output databases are used, such as those from the OECD intercountry input-output tables (ICIOTs), Eurostat ICIOTs, or modeled estimates released in various statistical publications.

The list of these sectors and their relationship to sectoral aggregation is given in Table 1.3 (note that short titles for these sectors are also used in this report for brevity and ease of presentation). The level of detail adopts the detail of the 2013 release of WIOD, which was chosen based on maximum available data at the NSO level while minimizing the need for assumptions to split industries to more granular subsets. Throughout this publication, note that these sectors may be shown at higher levels of aggregation for ease of presentation.

Table 1.3: List of Sectors in the Multiregional Input-Output Tables

Code	35-Sector Aggregation	15-Sector Aggregation	5-Sector Aggregation
c1	Agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing	Agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing	Primary
c2	Mining and quarrying	Mining and quarrying	Primary
c3	Food, beverages, and tobacco	Light manufacturing	Low-technology manufacturing
c4	Textiles and textile products	Light manufacturing	Low-technology manufacturing
c5	Leather, leather products, and footwear	Light manufacturing	Low-technology manufacturing
c6	Wood and products of wood and cork	Light manufacturing	Low-technology manufacturing
c7	Pulp, paper, paper products, printing, and publishing	Light manufacturing	Low-technology manufacturing
c8	Coke, refined petroleum, and nuclear fuel	Heavy manufacturing	Medium- to high-technology manufacturing
c9	Chemicals and chemical products	Heavy manufacturing	Medium- to high-technology manufacturing
c10	Rubber and plastics	Light manufacturing	Low-technology manufacturing
c11	Other nonmetallic minerals	Light manufacturing	Medium- to high-technology manufacturing
c12	Basic metals and fabricated metal	Heavy manufacturing	Medium- to high-technology manufacturing
c13	Machinery, nec	Heavy manufacturing	Medium- to high-technology manufacturing
c14	Electrical and optical equipment	Heavy manufacturing	Medium- to high-technology manufacturing
c15	Transport equipment	Heavy manufacturing	Medium- to high-technology manufacturing
c16	Manufacturing, nec; recycling	Light manufacturing	Low-technology manufacturing
c17	Electricity, gas, and water supply	Utilities	Low-technology manufacturing
c18	Construction	Construction	Low-technology manufacturing
c19	Sale, maintenance, and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; retail sale of fuel	Trade services	Business services
c20	Wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	Trade services	Business services
c21	Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; repair of household goods	Trade services	Business services
c22	Hotels and restaurants	Hotels and restaurants	Business services
c23	Inland transport	Transport services	Business services
c24	Water transport	Transport services	Business services
c25	Air transport	Transport services	Business services
c26	Other supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies	Transport services	Business services
c27	Post and telecommunications	Telecommunications	Business services
c28	Financial intermediation	Financial intermediation	Business services
c29	Real estate activities	Real estate, renting, and business activities	Business services
c30	Renting of M&Eq and other business activities	Real estate, renting, and business activities	Business services

continued on next page.

Table 1.3 *continued*.

Code	35-Sector Aggregation	15-Sector Aggregation	5-Sector Aggregation
c31	Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	Public administration and defense	Personal and public services
c32	Education	Education, health, and social work	Personal and public services
c33	Health and social work	Education, health, and social work	Personal and public services
c34	Other community, social, and personal services	Other personal services	Personal and public services
c35	Private households with employed persons	Other personal services	Personal and public services

M&Eq = machinery and equipment; nec = not elsewhere classified

Source: Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Database Team.

After processing and harmonizing the NAS, these figures serve as the basis for estimating unbalanced intersectoral transactions for nonbenchmark years, particularly by using direct input coefficients of benchmark SUTs and/or IOTs. This constructs an initial table that undergoes a series of validation and consistency checks to adhere to accounting identities in the SUT or IOT as well as the control totals derived from NAS indicated in Table 1.2.

1.4.2 Constructing the Bilateral Trade Matrixes

A second crucial component of the MRIOT is the bilateral trade matrix. These matrixes link one economy’s export values to a trade partner’s import values. The basic data requirement of bilateral trade matrixes are the flows of imports and exports of all economies covered in the MRIOT from all partners in the world at the Harmonized System (HS) 6-digit product level, taken from the UN Comtrade database and OECD Balanced International Trade in Services. However, bilateral trade flows of imports and exports are not always consistent due to time lags and differences in coverage, method, valuation, classification, and reporting procedures across economies. Following Timmer et al. (2015), the MRIOT prioritizes the use of imports data as these are scrutinized by NSOs and central banks.

The HS product codes describe the “sectoral” classification of the product (i.e., which of the 35 sectors exports the product) as well as its use (i.e., how and where the product was used). The codes are mapped out from HS 2002 to ISIC 3.1 classification using conversion and correlation tables published by the UN Statistical Division. The detailed product level codes are also classified based on the “use” categories—intermediates, final consumption, and investment—using the correspondence between HS6 codes and the Broad Economic Categories. While still not at the detailed “use” level desired, the Broad Economic Categories classification allows for a theoretical allocation of intermediate goods flow versus its final consumption.

For services trade, bilateral flows are mainly collected from the World Trade Organization, UN Comtrade, and the OECD's Balanced Trade in Services dataset. This dataset contains detailed trade data for 12 standard services sectors and a total for commercial services. It provides both reported and balanced figures that reconcile previously asymmetrical export and import data. Concordance is set up between balance of payments codes and the MRIOT sector list to allocate the services trade flows.

The datasets from international organizations on goods imports by use and trade partner as well as services imports by trade partner are further disaggregated into receiving industries in the importing economy using the general structure from the import use matrix compiled at the national level. These import use matrixes are obtained from benchmark or annual SUTs and/or IOTs. Analogously, goods and services exports by trade partner are allocated across receiving industries in the importing economy using export matrixes from Eurostat's Full International and Global Accounts for Research in Input-Output Analysis, OECD ICIOTs, Eora MRIOTs, and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean⁶ and Institute of Applied Economic Research's South American IOTs. The combined bilateral trade flows are compared and checked for consistency with the balance of payments statistics published by NSOs and/or monetary authorities as well as other international databases.

Once domestic and bilateral trade matrixes are completed for all products, uses, and trade partners, these trade flows must be reconciled and balanced based on row (i.e., export by product) and column (imports by sector). In most cases, manual balancing is preferred over automated algorithms and iterative proportional fitting methods, as it allows for a closer evaluation of underlying sources, trade asymmetries, and outliers within the time series. The reconciliation process also uses mirror trade figures, while still considering valuation differences. The balancing process is also performed separately for domestic and bilateral trade matrixes to ensure that domestic and international flows are consistent with the control figures. Automated balancing is performed only when the discrepancies are diminished to low tolerable figures. Consistency and plausibility checks are conducted after balancing to minimize potential errors in the data.

1.4.3 Rest of the World

Completing the MRIOT requires a region called “the rest of the world” (RoW), which encompasses all economies in the world aside from the 62 “visible” economies in the MRIOT. This region's “domestic” or intra-RoW transactions are obtained residually. They are estimated by taking the world GDP in a particular year minus the total GDP

⁶ The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean is also known by its Spanish acronym, CEPAL, which stands for Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe.

of all 62 economies in the MRIO database. The residual GDP serves as a basis for deriving gross output in the region, which is then used to populate “domestic” or intra-RoW intermediate and final uses following the approach of Timmer et al. (2012).

Meanwhile, the external trade of the 62 economies with RoW are derived residually. That is, exports from RoW are simply the imports by each economy from the world minus imports from the 62 visible economies. Similarly, imports to RoW are derived as the total exports from each economy to the world minus exports to the 62 economies. By extension, each economy’s exports to 62 other economies plus RoW should sum to its total exports to the world. Adding RoW matrixes to the 62 economies completes the IOT for the world economy.

1.5 National Input–Output Tables

As previously discussed, the MRIOT is structured such that the domestic transactions of each economy fall into the main diagonal blocks of the entire matrix, with the off-diagonals representing the explicit trade links of one economy to another (Table 1.1). These bilateral trade links, both imports and exports, can therefore be aggregated in a standard fashion of a NIOT. These national-based tables are more likely to be used in analysis focusing on domestic industries and their sale and purchase relationships. In contrast, MRIOTs are often used in the analysis of regional trade and analysis of economic events that may have international repercussions. NIOTs, however, are the most available type of IOTs as MRIOTs (or ICIOTs) often require some form of multilateral effort to harmonize and link various national economic statistics.

NIOTs on their own still provide a comprehensive account of the domestic economy by describing the flows of goods and services from one sector to another. As such, these tables facilitate a wide range of industry-based analysis, economic planning, and the statistical compilation of GDP (UN 2018). The following chapter provides a preview of these analyses that can be performed using NIOTs, with particular interest in statistics that characterize the internal structure and performance of domestic sectors in an economy.

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Domestic Multipliers and Linkages

2

This chapter introduces a set of statistical and analytical indicators derived from national input–output tables. At minimum, these indicators characterize the productive structure of the economy from the point of view of its domestic sectors. The discussion progresses from the set of basic economic aggregates to more complex indicators that exploit detailed sale and purchase interactions among domestic industries. These interactions, commonly referred to as linkages, serve as the basis for quantifying the localized economic impacts of a given demand or supply shock.

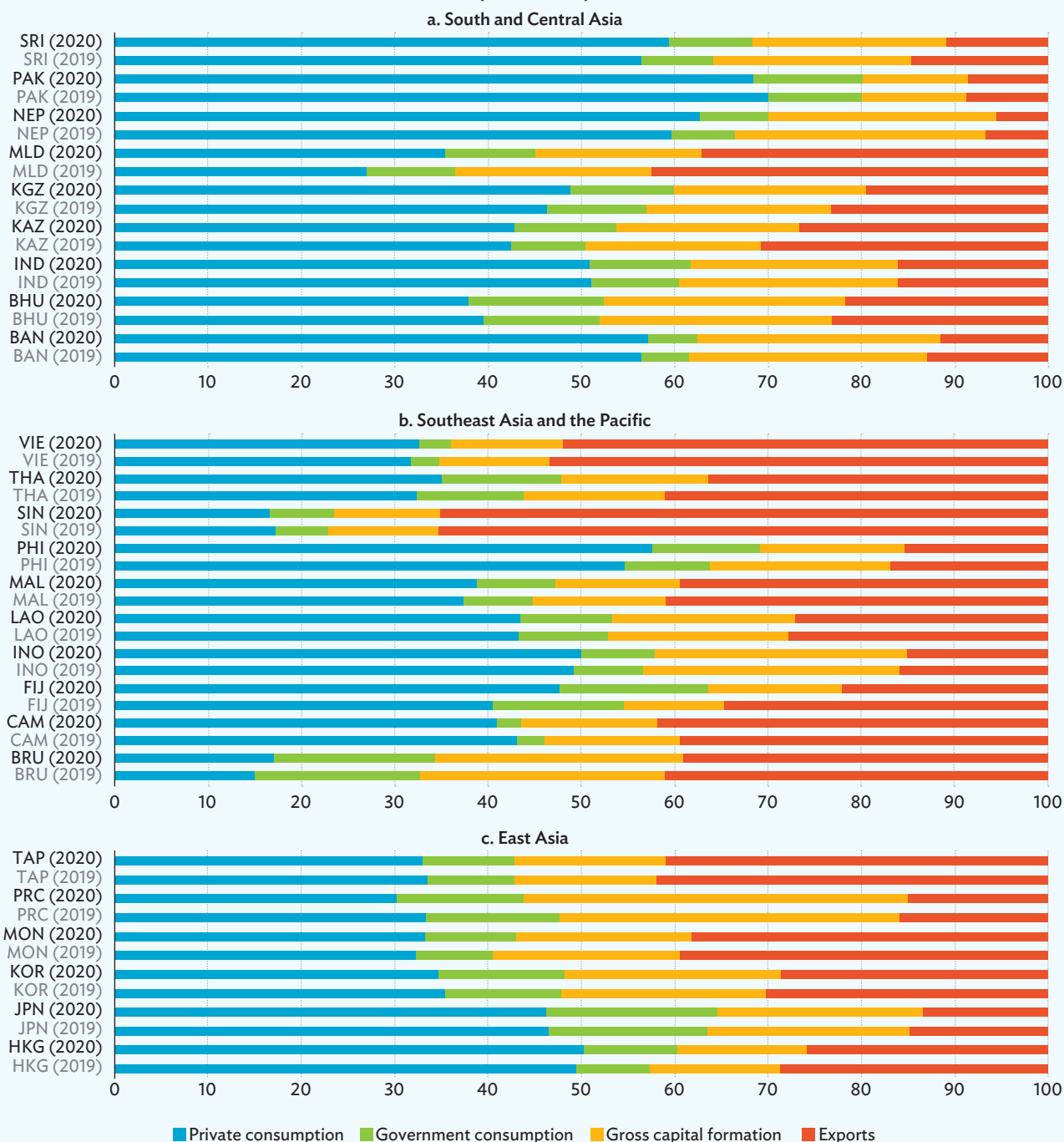
2.1 Core Economic Indicators

Input–output tables (IOTs) are traditionally used in national economic planning. Applications of IOTs, especially before the rise of global trade activity, have been focused mostly on understanding domestic industries and their interrelationships. At the rudimentary level, an IOT framework divides the economy into several known sectors. Each sector's output and income are presented, along with the sector's intermediate and final demand for its products. National input–output tables model observed data on the flows of products from each of the sectors (as a producer and/or seller) to each of the sectors (as a purchaser and/or buyer) within a single economy for a given period (usually a year). These figures are based on the monetary values of transactions between pairs of productive sectors and from productive sectors to external purchasers (households, governments, foreign economies).

Summing the values of all sectors' value-added or final demand in the economy results in the gross domestic product (GDP). These figures are regularly presented in national accounts statistics and used frequently in the study of an economy's performance and its sources of growth. Since the IOT framework integrates the production- and expenditure-based measures of GDP, one can directly examine and compare the economy's composition from those two accounting methods.

Consider Figure 2.1 below. The chart shows the composition of each economy from the demand perspective, as represented by the shares of private consumption, government consumption, gross capital formation, and exports in the total final demand for each economy for 2019 and 2020.

Figure 2.1: Composition of Final Demand of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Subregion
(% of GDP)



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; GDP = gross domestic product; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Note: East Asia is comprised of Hong Kong, China; Japan; Mongolia; the People's Republic of China; the Republic of Korea; and Taipei, China. Southeast Asia and the Pacific is comprised of Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Fiji; Indonesia; the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; the Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; and Viet Nam. South and Central Asia is comprised of Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; Kazakhstan; the Kyrgyz Republic; Maldives; Nepal; Pakistan; and Sri Lanka.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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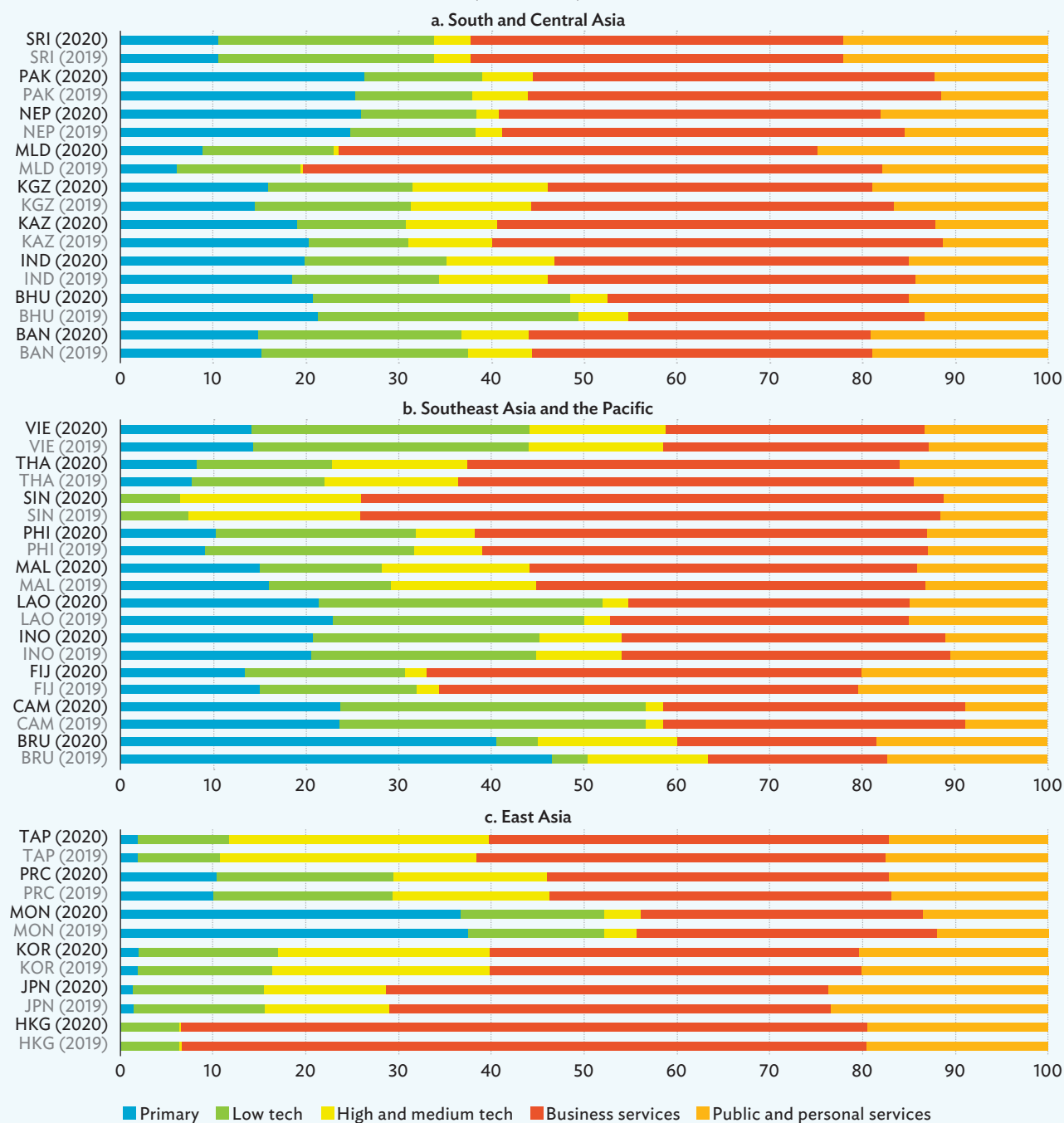
Across the 25 economies in Asia and the Pacific that participated in this report, private consumption accounted for an average of 41.8% of the total final demand in 2019; gross capital formation, 19.7%; exports, 29.0%; and government consumption, 9.5%. Private consumption had the largest share in the total final demand of most economies, ranging from 15.0% to 70.0%. In 2020, its shares ranged from 16.6% to 68.5% across all economies. For both 2019 and 2020, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, and Sri Lanka had the highest shares in terms of total final demand accounted for by private consumption. However, exports are also significant in economies such as Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Malaysia; Maldives; Singapore; Taipei, China; and Viet Nam.

Figure 2.2 presents the economic composition of the three subregions from the production-side, by calculating each sector's value-added share to the total. This is a common way of describing the sectoral composition of GDP and the activities that generate the most income for the economy. Across all subregions, the business services sector had the highest share in gross value-added (GVA): 40.63% in 2019 and 40.35% in 2020. In absolute terms, business services in Southeast Asia had the highest value-added among all the subregional groupings for both years, even though the business services sectors share within the subregion decreased from 42.74% in 2019 to 41.92% in 2020. In addition, the shares of business services sectors in the respective GVAs of South and Central Asia and East Asia also decreased from 2019 to 2020.

The low- to high-technology manufacturing sectors also decreased slightly across all subregions from 2019 to 2020. This decline, however, was offset by a slight increase in the shares of the primary sector (e.g., agriculture and mining activities) as well as public and personal services (e.g., government services, social services, and other community services) across all subregions for both years. Primary sector activity rose from 9.16% in 2019 to 9.44% in 2020, while the public and personal services sector slightly increased from 17.49% in 2019 to 17.75% in 2020.

These basic economic indicators presented in the IOT framework offer additional advantages compared to regularly published figures in national accounts. First, figures obtained from the IOT have been compared with other statistics and balanced for any statistical discrepancies. This ensures that the figures are internally consistent in accordance with the accounting identities of the IOT framework. Second, the IOTs present a more disaggregated view of the economy. The final demands of the economy are shown not only by type (e.g., household consumption, government expenditure, fixed investments) but also by product. This product detail is, among other uses, often used to understand the consumption basket of households, composition of exported goods and services, and the most significant fixed assets in the economy.

Figure 2.2: Sectoral Composition of Value-Added of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Subregion (% of GVA)



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; H GVA = gross value-added; KG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: East Asia is comprised of Hong Kong, China; Japan; Mongolia; the People's Republic of China; the Republic of Korea; and Taipei, China.

Southeast Asia and the Pacific is comprised of Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Fiji; Indonesia; the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; the Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; and Viet Nam. South and Central Asia is comprised of Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; Kazakhstan; the Kyrgyz Republic; Maldives; Nepal; Pakistan; and Sri Lanka.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online> (accessed July 2021).

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Aside from final demand, IOTs present detailed intermediate consumption by sector (Table 2.1). This square ($n \times n$) matrix contains information on the two roles that any given sector performs in the economy. The rows depict the “supply” perspective (i.e., sectors as sellers) by showing the flow of intermediate sales z from sector i to sector 1 to n in the columns, with n being the total number of sectors in the IOT. The columns present the “demand” perspective (i.e., sectors as buyers) by detailing what volume of inputs z were purchased by sector j from sector 1 to n .

Table 2.1: Intersectoral Transactions in Intermediate Goods and Services

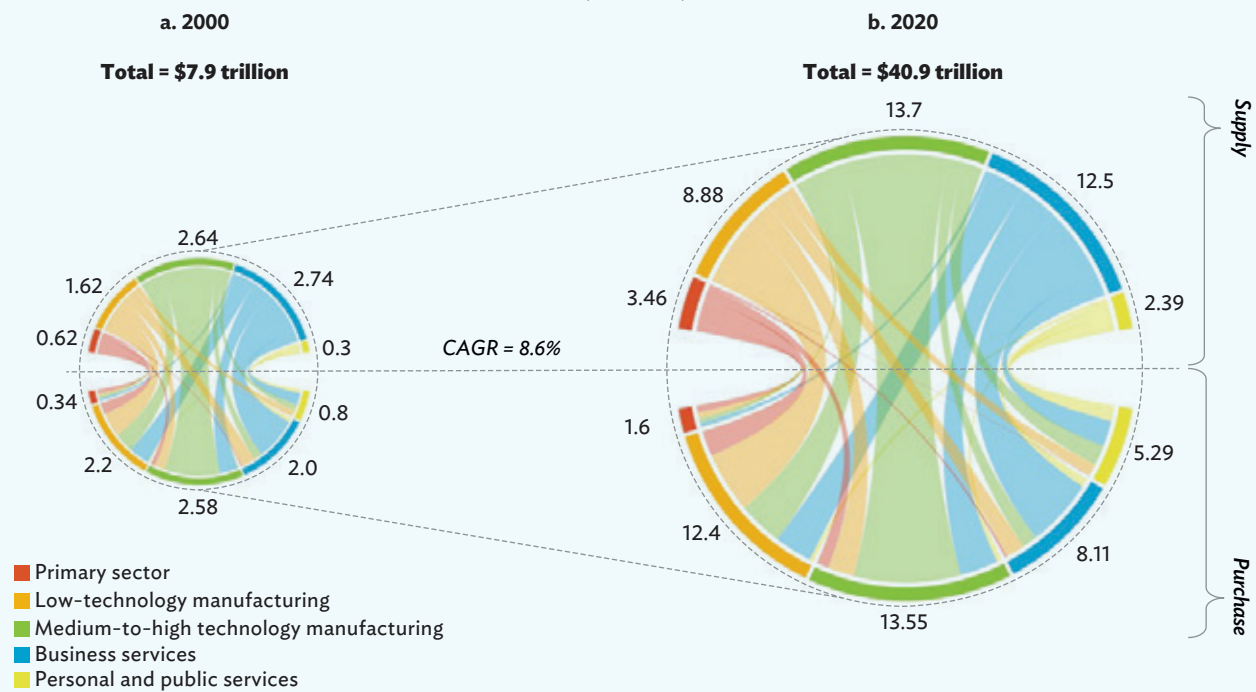
		Buying Sectors				
		1	...	j	...	n
Selling Sectors	1	z_{11}	...	z_{1j}	...	z_{1n}
	\vdots	\vdots		\vdots		\vdots
	i	z_{i1}	...	z_{ij}	...	z_{in}
	\vdots	\vdots		\vdots		\vdots
	n	z_{n1}	...	z_{nj}	...	z_{nn}

Source: Adapted from R. Miller and P. Blair. 2009. *Input-Output Analysis: Foundations and Extensions*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

To illustrate, Figure 2.3 combines the nominal intermediate transactions of the 25 economies from the Asia and Pacific region in the MRIOT for 2000 and 2020. One observation from the figure is that these intermediate transactions have grown massively in the span of 2 decades; from \$7.9 trillion in 2000 to \$40.9 trillion in 2020. This is understandable considering the gap between the two benchmark years, as well as the rise within the region of manufacturing powerhouses such as the People’s Republic of China (PRC). Even with the pandemic, these transactions increased by 0.7% from 2019 to 2020. However, it is important to emphasize that these values are in nominal terms and are therefore influenced by price fluctuations. For example, most substantial gain from 2019 to 2020 was recorded in the consumption of primary products (i.e., agriculture, mining, and other resource-based inputs) by low-technology manufacturing sectors. This is partly attributable to the observed price hikes in several oil and petroleum products in 2020, which happen to be an important input to a wide array of producers such as food, energy, textile, paper, rubber, and plastics.

Figure 2.3 also shows the two roles that industries occupy in the Asia and Pacific region. Sectors are described as suppliers at the upper segment of the chart by showing the value of intermediate sales these aggregate sectors have made to other purchasing sectors at the bottom. Notice that sectors such as low-technology manufacturing and personal and public services record larger amounts as purchasers of inputs than as suppliers. This implies that the products of these sectors use relatively higher amounts of inputs and are therefore more dependent on other sectors’ supplies.

Figure 2.3: Intraregional Intermediate Transactions of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Sector (\$ trillion)



\$ = United States dollars; CAGR = compound annual average growth rate.

Note: The data pertain to the economies of Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Kazakhstan; the Kyrgyz Republic; the Lao People’s Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; the People’s Republic of China; the Philippines; the Republic of Korea; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Taipei, China; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table for 2000 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

On the other hand, sectors such as primary sector and business services tend to sell more inputs than they consume. This indicates that these sectors generally enable production in the economy by providing necessary raw materials and services inputs. Figure 2.3 illustrates that the patterns of trade at that level of aggregation are not significantly altered from 2000 to 2020. This rigidity in trade structure indicates that input consumption patterns of producers tend to follow predominant industry processes. Food manufacturing will largely require raw agricultural products, modern buildings rely on steel, footwear products are birthed from rubber materials. As these ways of conducting business tend to be established at the industry level, inputs or cost structures also tend to be more stable irrespective of where the materials come from. Innovations however disrupt these structures; but that too will need an almost universal adoption of new technologies for it to be acutely reflected in the aggregate figures. The subsequent sections will further explore these supply-and-use interactions and demonstrate its utility for constructing a simple model of the economy.

2.2 Economic Sensitivity and Dependency

Relying on the intermediate transactions table, IOTs can model interdependencies among domestic sectors and further measure sensitivity of all producers to a single sector's changes in final demand. Suppose a decline in tourism activities for a particular economy reduced the demand for accommodation services. Rather than lose profits, this sector scales down its operations, which must mean a concomitant decrease in its purchases of inputs such as food, cleaning materials, utilities, and other services. Since these inputs affect other sectors' outputs, the macroeconomic effect of the decline in tourism activities would not come solely from the decrease in the demand for accommodation, but also from the lower demand for inputs to the hotel and restaurants sector. Using what is known as the Leontief insight, input-output analysis uniquely captures this broader impact from final demand changes: that is, supply and demand impacts to economy-wide production may be quantified using an array of multipliers and sectoral interlinkages.

2.2.1 Multipliers

One of the basic indicators that can be derived from an IOT is a multiplier. The multiplier determines which sectors could generate high changes in output or value-added in the economy if their final demand changed by some value. This indicates the sensitivity of an economy to a given sector, thereby providing insights on which sectors should be carefully developed or stimulated in order to induce wider growth in the economy through what is known as the multiplier effect. The effect can also be measured through other economic indicators such as income and employment, or through any analysis of interest (e.g., energy use, carbon emissions, pollution) as long as sector-level data are available.

Output Multipliers

The model starts with the assumption that the intersectoral flows between two sectors depend on the production level of the purchasing sector. This follows the logic that a sector purchases inputs based on its need to produce an output to satisfy demand in an economy. Suppose that a shoe producer demands \$400,000 worth of inputs from a leather manufacturer to produce \$1,000,000 worth of shoes. This intersectoral transaction between the footwear sector and the leather sector explicitly demonstrates the direct linkage between the two sectors. The share of the leather sector's inputs to the footwear sector's output is: $\$400,000 \div \$1,000,000 = 0.4$. In other words, \$0.4 worth of leather is required to produce \$1 worth of shoe. This ratio is known as the direct input requirement coefficient or technical coefficient.

Technical coefficients serve as the basic mechanism through which impacts are modeled in an input-output system, particularly by operationalizing intersectoral linkages. Assume that the shoe manufacturer forecasts double its demand in the following period. In this scenario, the direct economic impact amounts to \$2,000,000 (up from \$1,000,000). However, to produce this number of shoes, the manufacturer must procure leather as material input. In the Leontief model, technical coefficients are assumed to be fixed,

such that if the level of shoe production doubled, the required leather or any other inputs for that matter would also double.¹ In the example, 0.4 multiplied by \$2,000,000 is equal to \$800,000 worth of leather required to produce \$2,000,000 worth of shoes. This is interpreted as the first-round effect of the change in demand for shoes. However, to produce \$800,000 worth of leather inputs, the leather sector must in turn demand inputs as well, such as raw materials from livestock producers and chemical manufacturers. This further induces more demand of inputs from supplier sectors until all production requirements are met. These additional demands from leather, livestock, chemical, and all other upstream sectors represent the indirect economic impacts from doubling the demand for shoes.

More technically, the Leontief model captures the round-by-round effects brought by any changes in the final demand, in what is known as the Leontief inverse matrix. This matrix is defined as the inverse of the difference between the identity matrix and the technical coefficients matrix.² This gives the total requirements needed by a sector to produce its desired level of output. As suggested, the Leontief inverse coefficient accounts for not only the direct impacts but also the indirect impacts from intersectoral flows, hence also referred to as “total” requirements. In effect, each coefficient b_{ij} in the Leontief inverse matrix may be read as a multiplier, in that it gives the total output required from sector i for every unit of final demand in sector j . This type of multiplier is known as the **sectoral output multiplier**, since impact from a unit of final demand in one sector “multiplies” in the form of induced production in another sector. For example, if the sectoral output multiplier between leather producers and shoemakers is 0.50, this means that for every 1 unit of demand for shoes, the leather sector must produce a total of 0.50 units.

Summing sectoral output multipliers across sectors i to n due to demand in j yields the second (and most common) type of multiplier known as the **simple output multiplier**. Instead of showing the impact of a demand change to only one particular sector, the simple output multiplier gives the total (i.e., direct and indirect) outputs required from all sectors in the economy. It is calculated as the column sum of the Leontief inverse matrix, or the total Leontief inverse coefficients of a purchasing sector. To illustrate, the leather sector of Bangladesh exhibited a simple output multiplier of 1.95 in 2019, as shown in Figure 2.4. This simply indicates that for a \$1 increase in the demand for shoes, production from all sectors must increase by \$1.95 to provide for the final shoes.

The total production effects can be disaggregated to initial effects, first-round effects, and industrial support effects. The **initial effect** is the amount of exogenous change in demand and is assumed as one unit of output for a particular sector. This initial shock determines a new level of production for the affected sector, which must then purchase inputs from its “production recipe” described in the technical coefficients. The **first-round effect** provides the direct amount of inputs required for meeting the initial effect. For the leather sector of

¹ This fixed relationship implies that producers operate under constant returns to scale.

² Refer to the technical notes for the derivation of the Leontief inverse matrix.

Bangladesh, the first-round effect for every one unit (initial effect) demand for shoes is \$0.60. This is the amount of inputs requirement from all the sectors in Bangladesh to meet the additional \$1 in demand for their final shoes.

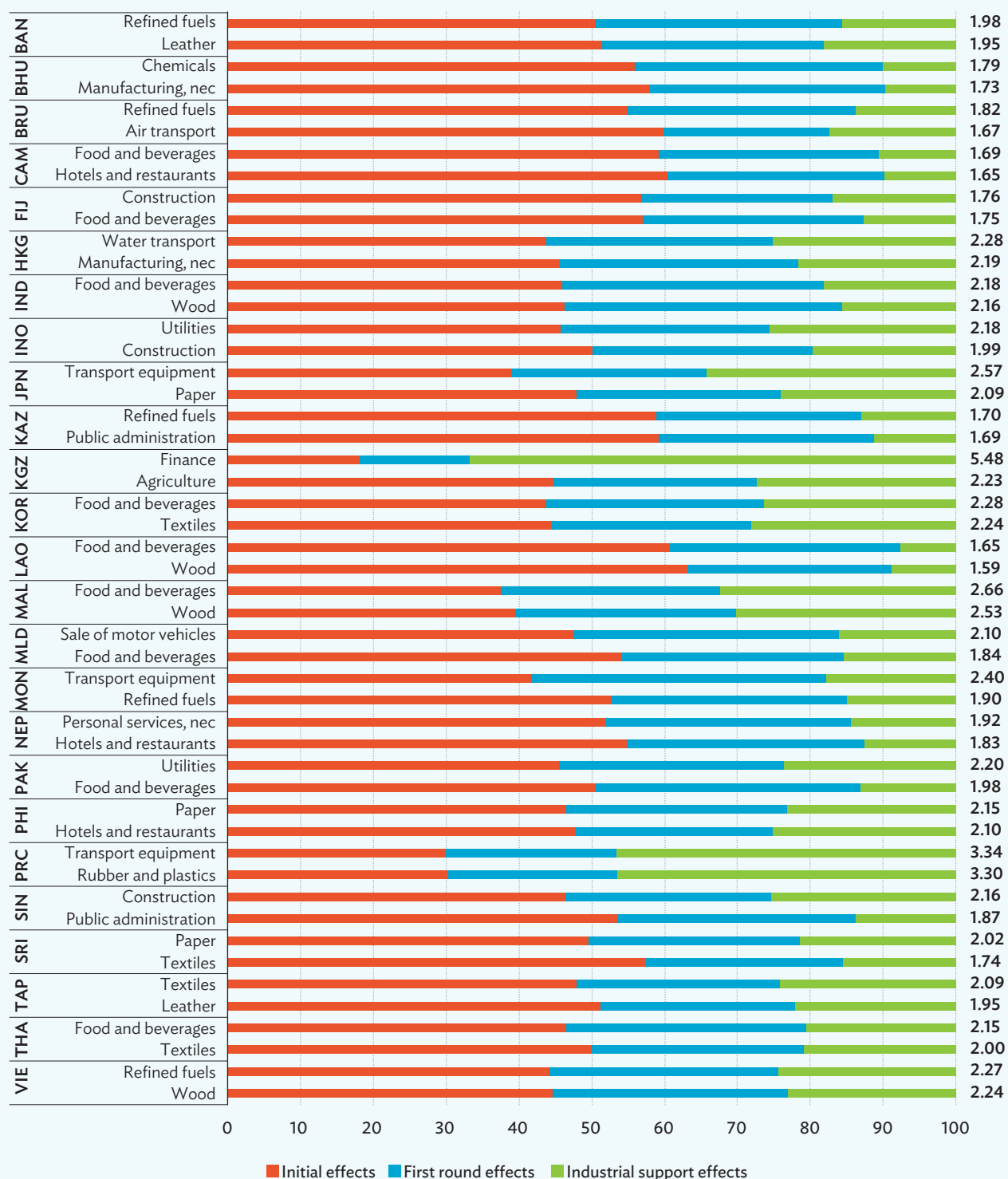
Further, the **industrial support effect** refers to all rounds of induced production from a unit change in demand after the first round. This effect includes all successive production from all sectors to meet the additional input requirements in the production of the additional direct input requirements (first-round effect) due to the one unit (initial effect) increase in final demand for a sector's product. It is calculated as the difference of the simple output multiplier, initial effect, and the first-round effect. In Bangladesh's leather sector, this is calculated as \$1.95 (total effect) minus \$1 (initial effect) minus \$0.60, which is equal to \$0.35. The first-round effects and industrial support effects make up the **production-induced effects**. This refers to the amount of output required from all supplying sectors to meet the change in final demand. This can also be calculated as the difference of the simple output multiplier and the initial effect. In the example, the production-induced effect is \$0.95, which means that, for every \$1 in demand for shoes, an additional \$0.95 is needed to be generated in the total economy.

Applying these calculations to the 25 participating economies of the Asia and the Pacific in the MRIOT, the manufacturing sector frequently features the highest simple output multiplier for each economy, most especially food and beverages and refined fuels (Figure 2.4). Note that the private households sector is omitted from the discussion in this chapter as transactions in this sector tends to be less illustrative of the economy's business sector, relative to other producing sectors.³ In 2019, the Kyrgyz Republic had the highest simple output multiplier of 5.48 units, belonging to the finance sector. If demand for final financial intermediation services increased by \$1,000,000, total output in the economy would increase by \$5,484,268. This was followed by the PRC's transport equipment sector and its rubber and plastics manufacturing sector, with 3.34 units and 3.30 units, respectively. These large simple output multipliers imply that the economies of the Kyrgyz Republic and the PRC are highly sensitive to final demand changes in these sectors. Meanwhile, in more detailed terms, Mongolia's transport equipment sector had the highest proportion of first-round effects in its simple output multiplier (40% of 2.40 units).

For 2020, the same top three sectors were observed in the 25 economies of Asia and the Pacific as shown in Figure 2.5. The Kyrgyz Republic's finance sector recorded the highest simple output multiplier among the 25 economies, with 69% of its demand impacts being comprised of industrial support effects. This means that an additional demand for final financial intermediation services induces disproportionately higher levels of production in other sectors than in the finance sector. Ultimately, most of the economies in Asia and the Pacific are highly sensitive to the final demand changes of the manufacturing sector, mainly on food and beverages and refined fuels.

³ Examples include services of maids, cooks, babysitters, and tutors.

Figure 2.4: Simple Output Multipliers for the Top Two Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2019
(%)

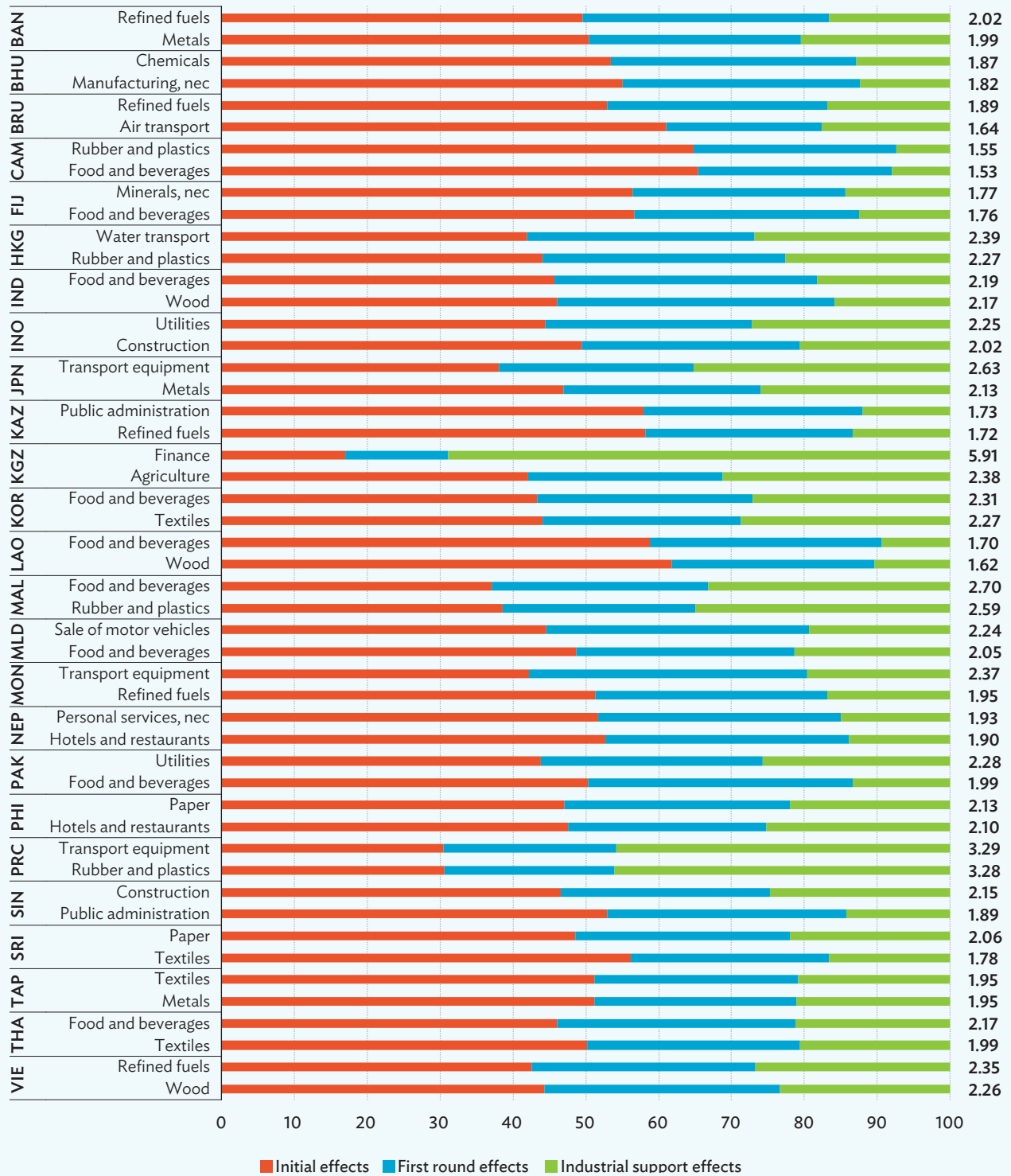


BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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Figure 2.5: Simple Output Multipliers for the Top Two Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020 (%)



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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Value-Added Multipliers

In some cases, an analyst may want to describe the total impacts in terms of the income or value-added accruing to the domestic economy. In an IOT, the gross value-added vector can be used to measure the total value-added embodied in each unit of final demand. The approach is to convert the components of the Leontief inverse matrix from output into value-added terms through value-added coefficients. This multiplier can then be directly used to express impacts that are more bounded to the value of gross domestic product. To illustrate, suppose the income or gross value-added of the footwear sector is \$700,000 on \$1,000,000 worth of shoes. This gives an increase to the economy of $\$700,000 \div \$1,000,000$ or \$0.7 per \$1 worth of shoes produced. Multiplying this to the Leontief inverse matrix will give the **simple value-added multiplier**, which sums the economy-wide value-added generated to satisfy a dollar's worth of final demand in a sector. A sector's simple value-added multiplier may be lower than 1, suggesting that part of the income does not accrue to the domestic economy, but it should not be greater than 1.

For both 2019 and 2020, the industries with the highest simple value-added multiplier, on average, in the Asia and the Pacific were found in the real estate, education, and finance sectors (Figures 2.6 and 2.7). Pakistan led the 25 economies within the real estate sector, with the highest multiplier for both years. This means that an additional \$1,000,000 in final demand for real estate would have generated an income or value-added to the Pakistan economy of about \$995,454 in 2019 and \$996,298 in 2020. Pakistan also led in terms of the value-added multiplier for the finance sector. For the education sector, Sri Lanka claimed the highest simple value-added multiplier for both years. This implies that, for every \$1,000,000 in final demand for education services, the economy could have potentially accrued \$993,143 and \$994,909 in value-added as estimated in 2019 and 2020, respectively. Also notable are Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, and the PRC, whose economies recorded simple value-added multipliers higher than the regional average in almost all sectors, as shown in the blue-filled cells in Figures 2.6 and 2.7. Moreover, Viet Nam observably showed low value-added multipliers, since the economy is heavily engaged in the midstream part of value chains for manufacturing (e.g., subassemblies for electronic products) where value-added to output ratios are typically low.

Figure 2.6: Simple Value-Added Multipliers for All Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2019

	BAN	BHU	BRU	CAM	FIJ	HKG	IND	INO	JPN	KAZ	KGZ	KOR	LAO	MAL	MLD	MON	NEP	PAK	PHI	PRC	SIN	SRI	TAP	THA	VIE	Sec. Ave.
Agriculture	0.90	0.96	0.78	0.85	0.84	0.68	0.97	0.97	0.87	0.82	0.81	0.84	0.95	0.86	0.65	0.83	0.91	0.96	0.92	0.95	0.69	0.89	0.81	0.88	0.60	0.85
Mining	0.97	0.89	0.83	0.83	0.70	-	0.89	0.95	0.66	0.86	0.64	0.81	0.79	0.92	-	0.76	0.87	0.98	0.85	0.90	-	0.93	0.77	0.63	0.63	0.72
Food and beverages	0.80	0.73	0.62	0.62	0.78	0.46	0.88	0.92	0.88	0.84	0.75	0.77	0.77	0.76	0.56	0.71	0.82	0.92	0.88	0.92	0.60	0.88	0.75	0.77	0.51	0.76
Textiles	0.74	0.86	0.82	0.56	0.87	0.67	0.86	0.55	0.89	0.79	0.72	0.68	0.78	0.68	0.73	0.54	0.62	0.90	0.75	0.90	0.56	0.83	0.64	0.72	0.51	0.73
Leather	0.88	0.86	0.75	-	0.75	0.45	0.86	0.54	0.86	0.71	0.72	0.62	0.81	0.75	-	0.63	0.67	0.91	0.71	0.88	0.54	0.85	0.73	0.76	0.58	0.67
Wood	0.89	0.80	0.63	0.77	0.81	0.67	0.89	0.91	0.86	0.79	0.51	0.72	0.85	0.77	0.70	0.53	0.71	0.86	0.84	0.87	0.65	0.83	0.58	0.79	0.58	0.75
Paper	0.71	0.64	0.59	0.58	0.74	0.56	0.82	0.85	0.89	0.71	0.65	0.77	0.83	0.71	0.67	0.47	0.54	0.87	0.80	0.85	0.49	0.77	0.72	0.86	0.46	0.70
Refined fuels	0.80	-	0.89	0.27	-	0.32	0.55	0.91	0.47	0.92	0.67	0.40	0.71	0.76	-	0.80	0.59	0.70	0.39	0.78	0.43	0.47	0.25	0.25	0.57	0.52
Chemicals	0.89	0.78	0.69	0.67	0.74	0.53	0.81	0.82	0.80	0.80	0.65	0.67	0.81	0.64	-	0.81	0.54	0.79	0.76	0.84	0.54	0.70	0.49	0.57	0.47	0.67
Rubber and plastics	0.82	0.60	0.55	0.39	0.55	0.58	0.80	0.77	0.88	0.90	0.68	0.71	0.66	0.54	-	0.72	0.56	0.72	0.68	0.83	0.70	0.82	0.61	0.78	0.41	0.65
Minerals, nec	0.93	0.87	0.54	0.70	0.78	0.27	0.78	0.85	0.81	0.79	0.68	0.66	0.78	0.68	0.62	0.52	0.58	0.84	0.64	0.90	0.37	0.77	0.58	0.37	0.69	0.68
Metals	0.63	0.66	0.60	0.65	0.68	0.33	0.54	0.83	0.74	0.90	0.83	0.60	0.50	0.53	0.62	0.61	0.44	0.75	0.47	0.80	0.50	0.47	0.56	0.48	0.37	0.60
Machinery, nec	0.72	0.66	0.60	0.33	0.76	0.55	0.75	0.69	0.85	0.75	0.66	0.73	0.57	0.60	-	0.32	0.70	0.74	0.58	0.82	0.55	0.53	0.62	0.63	0.36	0.60
Electricals	0.89	0.66	0.59	0.60	-	0.56	0.73	0.71	0.83	0.82	0.74	0.76	0.78	0.48	-	0.14	0.40	0.63	0.50	0.75	0.46	0.57	0.62	0.63	0.34	0.57
Transport equipment	0.91	0.66	0.60	0.60	0.77	0.55	0.75	0.85	0.81	0.71	0.62	0.63	0.56	0.45	0.66	0.68	0.50	0.56	0.69	0.84	0.55	0.59	0.64	0.63	0.42	0.65
Manufacturing, nec	0.85	0.74	0.60	0.59	0.84	0.58	0.75	0.83	0.85	0.65	0.56	0.72	0.77	0.75	0.81	0.54	0.56	0.84	0.75	0.92	0.57	0.79	0.64	0.66	0.56	0.71
Utilities	0.88	0.77	0.66	0.43	0.74	0.81	0.66	0.79	0.74	0.81	0.63	0.50	0.90	0.76	0.38	0.59	0.65	0.71	0.89	0.86	0.63	0.82	0.48	0.69	0.90	0.71
Construction	0.82	0.72	0.45	0.70	0.76	0.72	0.80	0.88	0.86	0.85	0.61	0.77	0.53	0.71	0.62	0.48	0.60	0.80	0.76	0.87	0.68	0.82	0.64	0.55	0.54	0.70
Sale of motor vehicles	0.97	0.93	0.53	-	0.87	-	0.95	0.91	0.92	0.80	0.77	0.89	0.78	0.77	0.66	0.77	0.94	0.90	0.89	-	0.73	0.94	0.88	0.72	0.69	0.73
Wholesale trade	0.93	0.93	0.73	0.73	0.84	0.78	0.95	0.92	0.94	0.88	0.82	0.86	0.89	0.82	0.85	0.72	0.96	0.97	0.93	0.95	0.59	0.94	0.88	0.86	0.82	0.86
Retail trade	0.98	0.93	0.72	0.70	0.88	0.93	0.95	0.92	0.94	0.89	0.78	0.87	0.86	0.81	0.77	0.79	0.93	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.82	0.93	0.92	0.86	-	0.84
Hotels and restaurants	0.84	0.93	0.71	0.77	0.84	0.62	0.65	0.90	0.91	0.88	0.74	0.80	0.83	0.82	0.64	0.73	0.79	0.89	0.87	0.94	0.73	0.89	0.83	0.84	0.62	0.80
Inland transport	0.91	0.70	0.65	0.66	0.62	0.88	0.68	0.85	0.91	0.82	0.64	0.77	0.72	0.73	0.69	0.54	0.61	0.83	0.73	0.92	0.80	0.85	0.74	0.76	0.50	0.74
Water transport	0.89	0.76	0.61	-	0.58	0.70	0.80	0.82	0.84	0.78	0.77	0.58	0.16	0.77	0.60	0.71	-	0.84	0.72	0.91	0.16	0.86	0.29	0.59	0.38	0.60
Air transport	0.70	0.45	0.43	-	0.55	0.74	0.80	0.80	0.86	0.79	0.56	0.60	0.16	0.64	0.67	0.70	0.70	0.82	0.62	0.83	0.44	0.63	0.53	0.65	0.44	0.61
Transport activities, nec	0.93	0.96	0.49	-	0.78	0.90	0.83	0.92	0.95	0.85	0.78	0.83	0.28	0.72	0.77	0.65	0.78	0.96	0.86	0.90	0.69	0.90	0.84	0.82	0.77	0.77
Telecommunications	0.93	0.86	0.56	0.77	0.80	0.85	0.79	0.92	0.93	0.89	0.71	0.86	0.88	0.79	0.78	0.58	0.81	0.94	0.88	0.91	0.58	0.71	0.86	0.84	0.59	0.80
Finance	0.95	0.96	0.85	0.94	0.89	0.94	0.94	0.95	0.96	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.94	0.91	0.91	0.89	0.89	0.97	0.95	0.96	0.64	0.94	0.93	0.93	0.82	0.91
Real estate	0.98	0.99	0.94	0.86	0.92	0.97	0.99	0.97	0.98	0.92	0.83	0.94	0.96	0.94	0.88	0.91	0.90	1.00	0.96	0.97	0.87	0.95	0.95	0.89	0.85	0.93
Business activities, nec	0.95	0.82	0.57	0.78	0.87	0.92	0.92	0.89	0.96	0.85	0.84	0.87	0.91	0.85	0.83	0.66	0.77	0.98	0.93	0.89	0.57	0.88	0.84	0.82	0.75	0.84
Public administration	0.94	0.90	0.73	0.72	0.86	0.96	1.00	0.94	0.94	0.80	0.86	0.93	0.84	0.82	0.85	0.74	0.91	0.85	0.95	0.92	0.72	0.98	0.91	0.89	0.87	0.87
Education	0.96	0.92	0.75	0.86	0.92	0.94	0.96	0.90	0.97	0.89	0.91	0.90	0.90	0.91	0.90	0.87	0.94	0.97	0.95	0.92	0.88	0.99	0.93	0.86	0.90	0.91
Health and social work	0.83	0.86	0.68	0.79	0.87	0.89	0.88	0.87	0.93	0.78	0.87	0.86	0.82	0.74	0.83	0.72	0.83	0.87	0.90	0.89	0.81	0.95	0.85	0.80	0.54	0.83
Personal services, nec	0.96	0.84	0.89	0.82	0.76	0.88	0.95	0.94	0.94	0.90	0.78	0.85	0.86	0.81	0.74	0.79	0.80	0.97	0.86	0.89	0.76	0.89	0.84	0.88	0.75	0.85
Economy Average	0.87	0.78	0.67	0.58	0.73	0.65	0.83	0.85	0.87	0.82	0.73	0.75	0.74	0.74	0.57	0.66	0.70	0.86	0.79	0.86	0.60	0.81	0.71	0.73	0.58	

BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; Sec. Ave. = Sector Average; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam; - = no data available.

Note: The regional average is the average simple value-added multiplier of the 25 economies per sector. The comparison of values is done row-wise. The intensity of the color scale is anchored to the regional average value per sector. The darker the shade the higher it is from the regional average value per sector.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019. <https://mrio.adb.org/> (accessed July 2021).

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Figure 2.7: Simple Value-Added Multipliers for All Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020

	BAN	BHU	BRU	CAM	FIJ	HKG	IND	INO	JPN	KAZ	KGZ	KOR	LAO	MAL	MLD	MON	NEP	PAK	PHI	PRC	SIN	SRI	TAP	THA	VIE	Sec. Ave.
Agriculture	0.91	0.97	0.77	0.79	0.88	0.73	0.97	0.98	0.88	0.83	0.86	0.86	0.96	0.87	0.73	0.85	0.92	0.96	0.92	0.95	0.72	0.90	0.82	0.89	0.62	0.86
Mining	0.97	0.91	0.83	0.75	0.76	-	0.90	0.96	0.69	0.86	0.73	0.83	0.83	0.93	-	0.79	0.89	0.98	0.87	0.91	-	0.94	0.80	0.66	0.64	0.74
Food and beverages	0.82	0.79	0.62	0.49	0.82	0.51	0.89	0.93	0.89	0.85	0.81	0.78	0.80	0.78	0.63	0.73	0.84	0.93	0.88	0.93	0.63	0.90	0.76	0.78	0.53	0.77
Textiles	0.76	0.85	0.82	0.42	0.89	0.78	0.87	0.58	0.90	0.79	0.79	0.70	0.81	0.70	0.75	0.57	0.66	0.91	0.77	0.91	0.59	0.85	0.67	0.74	0.53	0.74
Leather	0.89	0.85	0.78	-	0.82	0.50	0.87	0.59	0.88	0.71	0.78	0.64	0.85	0.76	-	0.65	0.71	0.92	0.73	0.89	0.58	0.87	0.78	0.77	0.59	0.70
Wood	0.90	0.84	0.64	0.68	0.85	0.73	0.90	0.92	0.87	0.79	0.61	0.74	0.87	0.79	0.74	0.56	0.74	0.88	0.85	0.89	0.68	0.86	0.61	0.79	0.60	0.77
Paper	0.74	0.70	0.61	0.48	0.79	0.62	0.83	0.87	0.90	0.72	0.73	0.79	0.86	0.73	0.72	0.51	0.59	0.89	0.80	0.86	0.52	0.81	0.75	0.87	0.48	0.73
Refined fuels	0.81	-	0.89	0.27	-	0.40	0.57	0.92	0.52	0.92	0.75	0.45	0.75	0.76	-	0.83	0.63	0.76	0.64	0.80	0.45	0.52	0.29	0.25	0.58	0.55
Chemicals	0.90	0.82	0.68	0.60	0.76	0.59	0.83	0.84	0.82	0.80	0.74	0.71	0.85	0.66	-	0.82	0.59	0.82	0.61	0.85	0.57	0.73	0.53	0.59	0.49	0.69
Rubber and plastics	0.83	0.68	0.56	0.50	0.64	0.64	0.82	0.80	0.88	0.90	0.76	0.73	0.72	0.55	-	0.74	0.59	0.75	0.69	0.84	0.72	0.84	0.66	0.79	0.42	0.68
Minerals, nec	0.94	0.89	0.56	0.59	0.82	0.35	0.80	0.86	0.83	0.80	0.76	0.68	0.81	0.70	0.65	0.56	0.62	0.86	0.68	0.91	0.41	0.79	0.65	0.40	0.71	0.71
Metals	0.65	0.72	0.62	0.66	0.71	0.43	0.57	0.85	0.77	0.90	0.87	0.62	0.57	0.56	0.66	0.68	0.46	0.79	0.52	0.81	0.54	0.48	0.61	0.51	0.39	0.64
Machinery, nec	0.74	0.72	0.61	0.45	0.81	0.61	0.77	0.72	0.87	0.75	0.74	0.74	0.65	0.62	-	0.36	0.71	0.78	0.62	0.84	0.58	0.58	0.64	0.65	0.38	0.64
Electricals	0.90	0.72	0.61	0.59	-	0.60	0.75	0.74	0.85	0.82	0.80	0.77	0.87	0.51	-	0.14	0.43	0.69	0.52	0.76	0.49	0.60	0.64	0.65	0.36	0.59
Transport equipment	0.90	0.72	0.61	0.64	0.82	0.60	0.77	0.86	0.83	0.71	0.71	0.65	0.69	0.48	0.69	0.68	0.53	0.63	0.72	0.85	0.57	0.62	0.66	0.65	0.42	0.68
Manufacturing, nec	0.86	0.79	0.61	0.63	0.87	0.46	0.77	0.85	0.87	0.65	0.66	0.74	0.80	0.76	0.84	0.57	0.58	0.87	0.76	0.93	0.60	0.81	0.67	0.68	0.57	0.73
Utilities	0.89	0.81	0.64	0.26	0.73	0.85	0.69	0.81	0.77	0.82	0.71	0.52	0.92	0.77	0.49	0.62	0.72	0.73	0.90	0.87	0.66	0.85	0.57	0.71	0.91	0.73
Construction	0.83	0.78	0.45	0.57	0.81	0.75	0.82	0.90	0.87	0.85	0.70	0.78	0.58	0.73	0.68	0.53	0.61	0.84	0.78	0.88	0.69	0.84	0.67	0.58	0.56	0.72
Sale of motor vehicles	0.97	0.94	0.52	-	0.89	-	0.96	0.92	0.93	0.80	0.82	0.90	0.83	0.78	0.74	0.79	0.95	0.92	0.90	-	0.74	0.95	0.79	0.74	0.71	0.74
Wholesale trade	0.94	0.94	0.71	0.65	0.86	0.81	0.96	0.93	0.95	0.90	0.86	0.88	0.93	0.83	0.87	0.74	0.97	0.97	0.94	0.95	0.61	0.96	0.92	0.87	0.84	0.87
Retail trade	0.98	0.95	0.71	0.63	0.91	0.95	0.96	0.93	0.95	0.90	0.83	0.88	0.89	0.82	0.82	0.81	0.93	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.83	0.95	0.94	0.87	-	0.85
Hotels and restaurants	0.85	0.95	0.68	0.73	0.84	0.64	0.68	0.91	0.92	0.88	0.80	0.82	0.86	0.83	0.69	0.74	0.83	0.90	0.88	0.95	0.75	0.91	0.84	0.86	0.64	0.82
Inland transport	0.92	0.77	0.67	0.57	0.70	0.90	0.70	0.87	0.91	0.82	0.72	0.81	0.79	0.75	0.76	0.57	0.61	0.85	0.78	0.93	0.81	0.88	0.78	0.78	0.52	0.77
Water transport	0.89	0.81	0.57	-	0.68	0.77	0.82	0.84	0.85	0.79	0.82	0.65	0.32	0.75	0.69	0.73	-	0.87	0.78	0.92	0.18	0.89	0.65	0.61	0.40	0.65
Air transport	0.73	0.56	0.40	-	0.66	0.79	0.83	0.83	0.87	0.80	0.66	0.65	0.31	0.66	0.76	0.72	0.73	0.85	0.71	0.85	0.47	0.70	0.63	0.68	0.46	0.65
Transport activities, nec	0.93	0.96	0.48	-	0.84	0.92	0.85	0.94	0.95	0.86	0.83	0.85	0.38	0.75	0.81	0.67	0.81	0.97	0.87	0.91	0.70	0.93	0.88	0.83	0.78	0.79
Telecommunications	0.94	0.88	0.58	0.70	0.88	0.88	0.81	0.93	0.94	0.89	0.77	0.87	0.92	0.82	0.84	0.61	0.84	0.96	0.89	0.92	0.59	0.77	0.89	0.85	0.61	0.82
Finance	0.95	0.96	0.85	0.93	0.88	0.96	0.95	0.96	0.97	0.90	0.92	0.91	0.96	0.92	0.93	0.90	0.91	0.98	0.96	0.96	0.66	0.96	0.96	0.93	0.84	0.92
Real estate	0.98	0.99	0.95	0.83	0.92	0.97	0.99	0.98	0.98	0.93	0.87	0.95	0.96	0.94	0.90	0.92	0.91	1.00	0.97	0.98	0.88	0.96	0.96	0.90	0.86	0.94
Business activities, nec	0.96	0.86	0.60	0.72	0.87	0.94	0.93	0.90	0.96	0.86	0.88	0.88	0.92	0.87	0.87	0.69	0.80	0.98	0.94	0.90	0.59	0.90	0.86	0.84	0.77	0.85
Public administration	0.94	0.92	0.72	0.65	0.91	0.96	1.00	0.95	0.95	0.82	0.90	0.94	0.88	0.84	0.89	0.76	0.93	0.87	0.96	0.93	0.73	0.98	0.93	0.90	0.88	0.89
Education	0.97	0.93	0.74	0.82	0.90	0.95	0.97	0.92	0.97	0.90	0.94	0.91	0.93	0.92	0.88	0.95	0.97	0.95	0.93	0.88	0.99	0.94	0.87	0.90	0.90	0.92
Health and social work	0.85	0.89	0.68	0.73	0.90	0.91	0.89	0.89	0.94	0.78	0.90	0.87	0.85	0.76	0.86	0.74	0.85	0.88	0.89	0.90	0.82	0.96	0.88	0.81	0.55	0.84
Personal services, nec	0.96	0.87	0.89	0.76	0.71	0.90	0.96	0.95	0.95	0.90	0.83	0.86	0.88	0.83	0.81	0.81	0.82	0.98	0.87	0.91	0.77	0.91	0.87	0.89	0.77	0.87
Economy Average	0.88	0.82	0.67	0.53	0.77	0.69	0.84	0.87	0.88	0.83	0.79	0.78	0.79	0.76	0.61	0.68	0.73	0.88	0.81	0.87	0.62	0.84	0.75	0.74	0.60	

BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; Sec. Ave. = Sector Average; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam; - = no data available.

Note: The regional average is the average simple value-added multiplier of the 25 economies per sector. The comparison of values is done row-wise. The intensity of the color scale is anchored to the regional average value per sector. The darker the shade the higher it is from the regional average value per sector.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2020. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

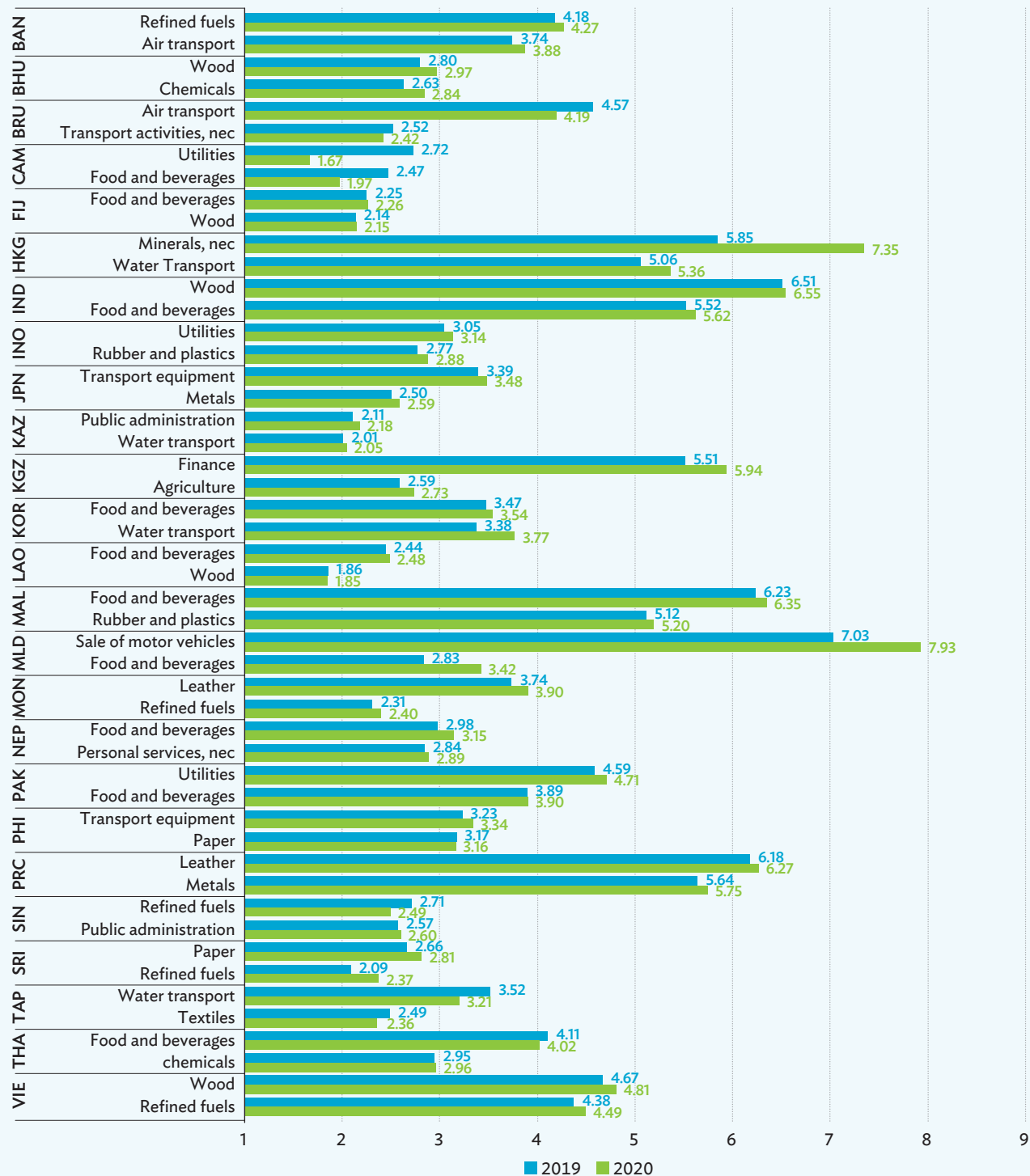
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In both Figure 2.6 and 2.7, the economies of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Maldives, Singapore, and Viet Nam appear to be below the regional averages across a majority of their respective sectors. As value-added multipliers refer to domestic income content of demand, lower indices are generally due to the increased share of foreign inputs in the production of final products. Consider two of the most trade-exposed economies in the sample: Singapore and Viet Nam. In these economies, the share of foreign inputs to total output is above average, suggesting that substantial value accrues to foreign rather than domestic sectors in the production process. Interested readers may compare the data on simple value-added multipliers and foreign input shares to output, and easily find the strong negative correlation between these two indicators.

Value-added multipliers can be presented as a ratio of the simple value-added multiplier (or direct and indirect value-added generated per unit of demand) to the value-added coefficient (or the direct value-added generated per unit of demand). This multiplier, known as the **type I value-added multiplier**, measures how much the effects of initial demand (normally assumed as one unit of demand or type of activity) are magnified when both direct and indirect effects are considered. Suppose a type I value-added multiplier of a footwear sector is equal to 1.62 units. If a certain amount of final demand is directly responsible for about \$150,000 of gross value-added in the economy, then in the event that this demand is realized, the economy should expect a total value-added impact of $1.62 \times \$150,000 = \$243,000$. The initial effect would be \$150,000, while the difference of \$93,000 would be the impact to the economy brought by round-by-round effects through the intersectoral flows present in an IOT.

Looking at Figure 2.8, the type I value-added multiplier of Hong Kong, China's nonmetallic minerals increased from 5.85 in 2019 to 7.35 in 2020. This makes it the third sector with the highest type I value-added multiplier in the region, and indicates increased production chain effects that are possibly attributed to the strengthening of upstream linkages over the year.

Figure 2.8: Type I Value-Added Multipliers for the Top Two Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: 1. Top two sectors with the highest type I value-added multiplier in 2019.

2. Outliers removed.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

2.2.2 Intersectoral Linkages

While multipliers are often used in evaluating economy-wide impacts, these indicators can also be used to characterize a sector's importance in the economy by virtue of its interconnectedness with the other sectors. When multipliers are used in this context, "linkages" becomes the more appropriate term. In an input-output framework, a sector supplies (intermediate products) and demands (inputs) from other producers in the market. These supply and demand interactions can be construed as a measure of a given sector's economic connectedness. When compared against all other sectors, one can identify sectors that have maximal effects on the entire framework through their input and output relations with other sectors. The value of these intersectoral linkages signify whether sectors are strongly or weakly connected to either downstream purchasers or upstream suppliers. These linkages are also used as a basis for determining key sectors in the economy.

The demand-side intersectoral flows are measured through backward linkages. This concept looks at the interconnectedness of a particular sector with sectors from which it purchases inputs. Conversely, supply-side flows are measured through forward linkages, considering the interconnectedness of a particular sector with sectors to which it sells its output. There are different proposed ways to measure both backward and forward linkages.

Backward Linkages

The direct backward linkage is defined as the first round of economy-wide impacts induced by changes in the final demand of a sector. It measures the linkages of the purchasing sector to suppliers it transacts with directly. The direct backward linkage is calculated as the sum of the direct input requirements of the purchasing sector, or the sum of the technical coefficients of the purchasing sector. If all rounds of effects are relevant in the analysis, then the total backward linkage may be used. This is the economy-wide impact induced by changes in the final demand of a sector. It includes the direct and subsequent rounds of impacts on interlinked industries due to a demand stimulus. This is the linkage equivalent of the simple output multiplier.

There are different ways to measure backward linkage (Oosterhaven 2019). For one, a sector with a high total backward linkage stimulates a relatively large amount of production in the economy. However, a sector that predominantly uses inputs from its own sectoral group will have less potential of spreading exogenous impulses throughout the economy. Hypothetically extracting a sector (both its demand- and supply-side effects) in measuring its contribution to the economy-wide total output would reveal only such impulses. Hence, the **complete hypothetical extraction backward linkage** gives the total backward linkage of a sector, but is corrected by its self-dependency. It is calculated as the sector's total backward linkage divided by its own simple output multiplier, or the diagonal entries in the Leontief inverse matrix.

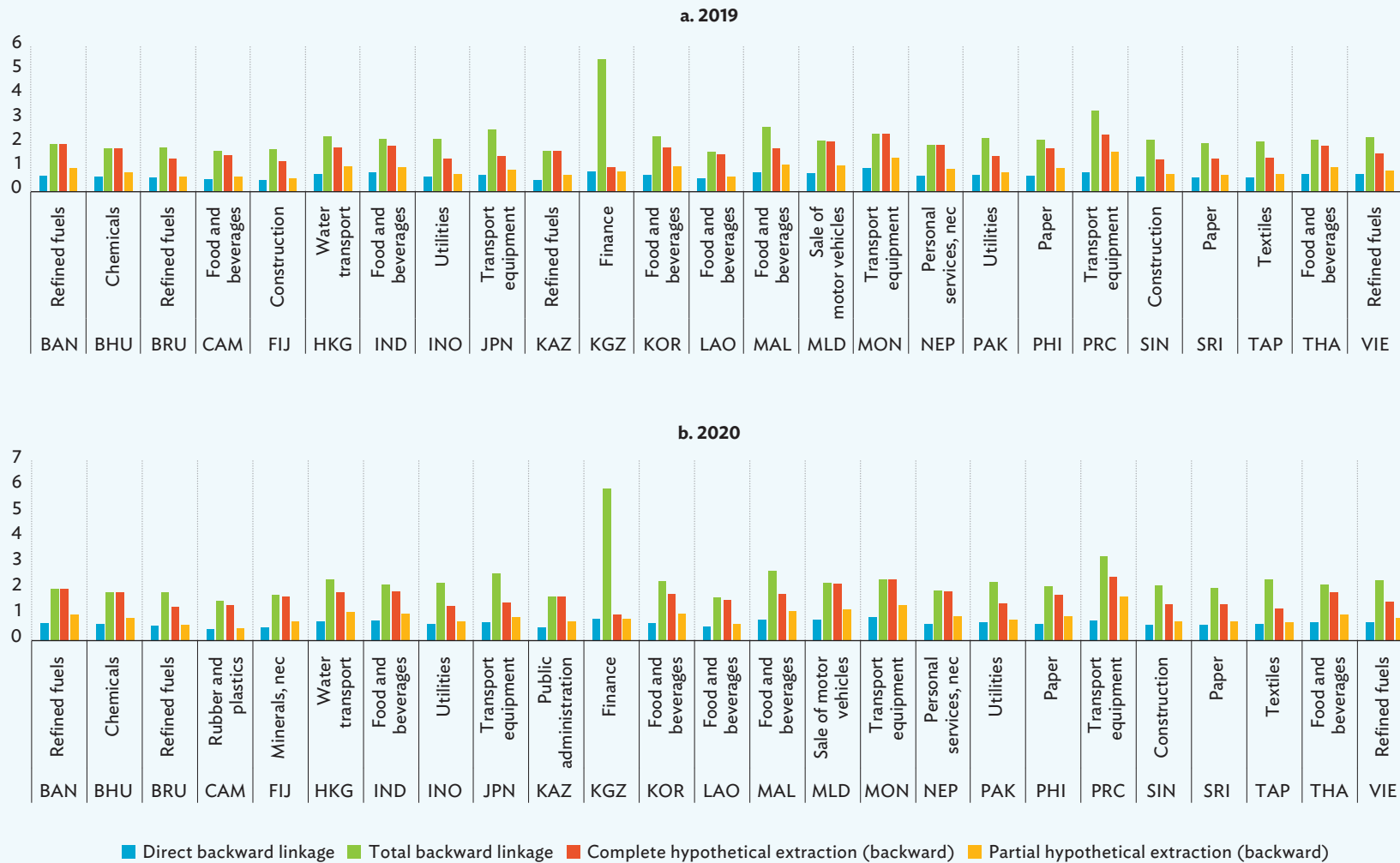
A drawback of a complete hypothetical extraction backward linkage is that it is mixed with the supply-side interactions. Thus, for analysts concerned with pure backward linkage, the **partial hypothetical extraction backward linkage** offers a demand-side analog of the complete hypothetical extraction linkage. This index, also normalized by self-dependency, measures the backward linkage of a sector only with the other sectors that it buys inputs from. It is calculated as the total backward linkage less 1 divided by the sector's diagonal entry in the Leontief inverse matrix. These hypothetical extraction backward linkages, both the complete and partial, are not to be confused with the economic impacts from a given sector's hypothetical extraction (discussed in the Hypothetical Extraction section of this chapter).

As observed in Figure 2.9, the direct backward linkage is represented as the lowest base values among the different linkage measures, since it focuses solely on direct sector connections. Conversely, the total backward linkage considers both direct and indirect sector connections. Considering the sectors' self-dependency, the complete backward hypothetical extraction linkage observes different values from the total backward linkage. For example, the Kyrgyz Republic's finance sector's total backward linkage of 5.48 in 2019 drastically reduces to 1.003 after considering the sector's backward linkage within the sectoral group. This stark difference is due to the sector's dependence on financial firms for inputs, which are mostly comprised of implicit charges involved in interbank lending activities. Its partial backward hypothetical extraction linkage further decreased to 0.82 after considering only the upstream interactions in the measurement.

Most of the sectors with the highest total backward linkages per economy in the region remained unchanged from 2019 to 2020, except for Cambodia; Fiji; Kazakhstan; and Thailand. The ranking of sectors also changed per linkage measure, given differences in identifying upstream linkages. For 2019 and 2020, the sectors with the highest total backward linkage were the Kyrgyz Republic's finance sector, the PRC's transport equipment sector, and Malaysia's manufacturing of food and beverages. By considering self-dependencies, different groups of sectors led the sample of economies in terms of backward linkage, such as the transport equipment sectors in Mongolia and the PRC and the sale of motor vehicles sector in Maldives. Finally, using partial extraction linkages registered the same leading sectors as the complete extraction linkages in 2020, although in 2019 the third-highest sector among the sampled economies was Malaysia's food and beverages sector.

The unusually high total backward linkage (also the simple output multiplier) of the Kyrgyz Republic's finance sector is largely due to the high direct operating costs borne by the banking sector, in addition to expenses related to the imputed financial services on its borrowing transactions with other banks. Recall that the Leontief model assumes that these costs reflect direct linkages of the banking sector with other sectors.

Figure 2.9: Variations of Backward Linkages for the Top Sector of Select Economies in Asia and Pacific



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: The top sector with the highest total backward linkage in 2019 for (a) and 2020 for (b).

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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This technical⁴ relationship of costs to output implies that financial firms are extensively dependent on other sectors in the production of a monetary unit of its service. For example, the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic's official supply-use table for 2019 assessed the intermediate consumption of the finance sector to be at more than 90% of its gross output (NSC 2021a). This figure is near the range of finance sector's ratio of direct costs to gross revenues (at around 80%) derived from the surveys of financial enterprises (NSC 2021b).⁵ Looking further into financial statements of sampled public financial companies, calculations by the authors of this report saw ratios of operating profit to income (a crude but informative indicator of value-added ratios) to be low, ranging from 10% to 35%. The bank with the widest reach in the Kyrgyz Republic, for example, registered a 12.5% ratio of profit to its total income, the inverse of which again indicates the high operating costs incurred by the enterprise. In any of these cases, for every \$1 worth of financial services produced in the economy, more than \$0.8 must be accruing to upstream sectors, significantly impacting the demand for these sectors' outputs. This high cost (input) ratio, combined with it being spread across many different domestic sectors, contributes to the large total backward linkage of the finance sector of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Forward Linkages

Forward linkages are the supply-side counterpart of backward linkages. These linkages are typically observed from the Ghosh family of input-output models (Ghosh 1958; Oosterhaven 1996; Dietzenbacher 1997). This concept assumes that the level of production of a sector is fixed and would be allocated between final consumers and other sectors for their respective productions. Suppose that the leather sector provides \$100,000 of its total output of \$3,000,000 to the footwear sector, then $\$100,000 \div \$3,000,000 = 0.03$. This ratio is the sales proportion of the footwear sector (the buying sector) to the total level of production of the leather sector (the supplying sector). It is also known as the direct allocation coefficient. Following the similar solution in the Leontief model for backward linkages, the Ghosh inverse matrix can be derived by using direct allocation coefficients instead of direct input requirement coefficients.⁶ The row sum of the Ghosh inverse matrix represents the total output generated in the economy, given a unit supply of primary inputs. This row sum is the analog of column sums in the Leontief inverse.

The direct forward linkage measures the first round of economy-wide impacts induced by a change in the primary inputs of a sector. This limits the measure of forward linkages to sectors that directly purchase their inputs. This is calculated as

⁴ In this context, it is important to highlight that the technical input coefficients are more accurately termed as accounting coefficients, since these reflect the monetary values of costs rather than physical quantities of technologies and materials (Lequiller and Blades 2014).

⁵ The difference between the two figures is explained by the inclusion of financial intermediation services indirectly measured in the former.

⁶ Refer to the technical notes for the derivation of the Ghosh inverse matrix.

the sum of the direct allocation coefficients of the supplying sector. Furthermore, the total forward linkage sums the direct forward linkage and the round-by-round effects induced by a change in primary inputs of a sector. As indicated above, this is calculated as the row sum of the Ghosh inverse matrix.

The **complete hypothetical extraction forward linkage** measures the total forward linkage of a sector adjusted for its self-dependency. This indicator highlights a sector's capacity to spread exogenous impulses to sectors other than itself. It is calculated as the sector's total forward linkage divided by its own Ghosh inverse multiplier, or the diagonal entries in the Ghosh inverse matrix. As with the backward linkage analog, the **partial hypothetical extraction forward linkage** provides the sector's self-dependency-adjusted total forward linkages with sectors it sells inputs to. It is calculated as the sector's total forward linkage less 1 divided by its own diagonal entry in the Ghosh inverse matrix.

Figure 2.10 compares different types of forward linkages across top sectors in select economies of Asia and the Pacific. Notice that total forward linkages exhibit higher values on account of round-by-round impacts from intersectoral flows. The sector with the highest total forward linkage within the region is the Kyrgyz Republic's finance sector, with 5.83 in 2019 and 6.39 in 2020. Adjusting for self-dependence, the same sector's complete hypothetical extraction forward linkage reduces to 1.07 in 2019 and 1.08 in 2020. This implies high intrasectoral transactions (or self-dependency), which indicates that any supply-side stimulus could exert lesser influence on other sectors in the economy. In contrast, Japan's mining sector had a total forward linkage of 2.93 in 2019 and 3.03 in 2020, and its complete extraction linkage did not deviate far, at 2.89 in 2019 and 2.98 in 2020. This indicates low self-dependency and that the mining sector of Japan could spread exogenous impulses to other sectors just as much as to itself. The sector's partial extraction linkage, meanwhile, reduced to 1.90 in 2019 and 2.00 in 2020. These values are considerably lower, since this measure only considers interlinkages of the mining sector with its upstream sectors.

From 2019 to 2020, the sectors with the highest total forward linkage per economy in the region remained unchanged (Figure 2.10). Aside from the Kyrgyz Republic's finance sector, the top sector in the region with the highest forward linkage for all measures is the mining sector, mainly from Indonesia, Japan, the PRC, and Viet Nam. This is expected, since the outputs of the mining sector are predominantly used as intermediate input to other production, such as steel manufacturing.

Figure 2.10: Variations of Forward Linkages for the Top Sector of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei,China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: The top sector with the highest total backward linkage in 2019 for (a) and 2020 for (b).

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/>(accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Normalized Linkages

The normalization of linkages is performed in order to scale indices by some other measures, such as economy-wide averages of linkages, value-added, and final demands, among others. In previous discussions, this normalization procedure was illustrated for hypothetical extraction linkages, particularly with respect to the self-dependency of a sector. Aside from this, linkages are also normalized to the average linkage of all sectors in an economy.

This normalization measure is often used to identify key sectors, given its high dependence on both upstream and downstream sectors (Miller and Blair 2009).

The **normalized total backward linkage** divides the sector's total backward linkage by the average of all domestic sectors. If the normalized value is greater than 1, then the sector has "strong" or higher-than-average dependence on other sectors' supplies. If this value is less than 1, the dependence is low. Meanwhile, the **normalized total forward linkage** divides the sector's total forward linkage by the average of all domestic sectors. If the normalized value is greater than 1, then a sector has "strong" or higher-than-average dependence on other sectors' demands for its output. The dependence is "weak" if the value is less than 1. Table 2.2 summarizes the interpretation of the normalized backward and forward linkages for each sector.

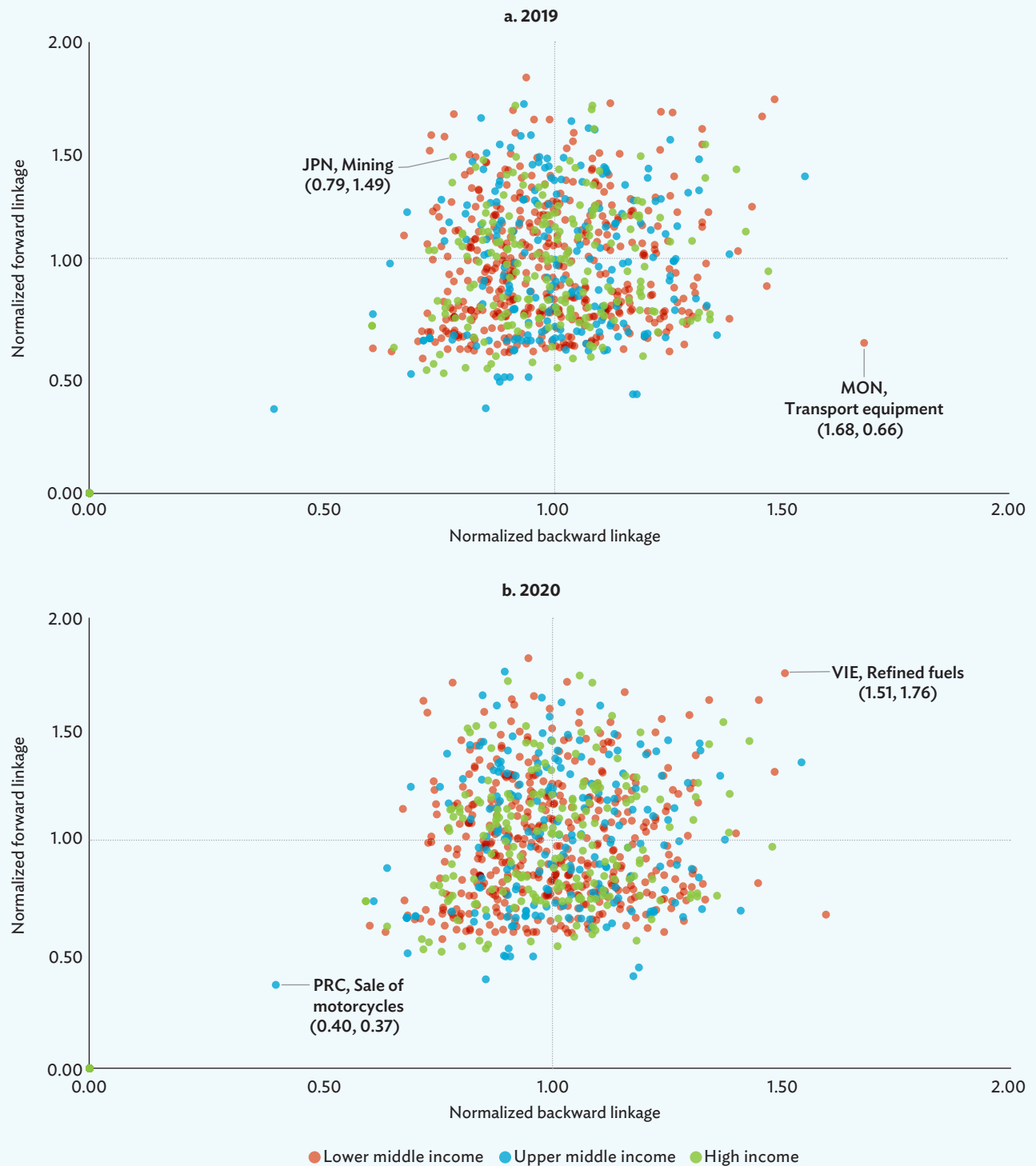
Table 2.2: Classification of Key Sectors Using Normalized Backward and Forward Linkages

		Backward Linkage	
		Low (<1)	High (>1)
Forward Linkage	High (>1)	Dependent on intersectoral demand	Generally dependent
	Low (<1)	Generally independent	Dependent on intersectoral supply

Source: Adapted from R. Miller and P. Blair. 2009. *Input-Output Analysis: Foundations and Extensions*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

The classifications presented in Table 2.2 are visually plotted in the corresponding quadrants of Figure 2.11. This allows for economy-sector classification based on its interdependence with other economy-sectors, whether downstream, upstream, or both. In the 2019 section of Figure 2.11, Japan's mining sector can be found in the second quadrant, wherein it has a low normalized backward linkage of 0.79 and a high normalized forward linkage of 1.49 (referring to Table 2.2, this sector is dependent on intersectoral demand, which is typical for a mining sector). Meanwhile, Mongolia's transport equipment sector is found in the fourth quadrant, given its high normalized backward linkage of 1.68 and low normalized forward linkage of 0.66. This indicates that the sector is dependent on intersectoral supply, which is generally expected of sectors whose outputs are mainly consumed as a final product (or, in this case, as fixed investment). In 2020, Viet Nam's refined fuel manufacturing sector was generally dependent on both upstream and downstream sectors.

Figure 2.11: Normalized Linkages of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific



JPN = Japan; MON = Mongolia; PRC = People's Republic of China; VIE = Viet Nam.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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In Figure 2.11, this key sector exhibits a normalized backward linkage of 1.51 and a normalized forward linkage of 1.76. As such, changes in the sector's demand or supply could generate significant ripple effects to the economy. Conversely, the PRC's sale of motor vehicles sector was generally independent of both the upstream and downstream sectors in 2020, having a normalized backward linkage of 0.40 and a normalized forward linkage of 0.37. This sector also tended to show the weakest normalized linkages for other economies in the region. This implies that any change within the sector would exert low influence on the rest of the economy.

Figure 2.11 shows no observable pattern linking the income status of the select economies and the normalized linkages of their respective sectors. This is evidenced by a small average dispersion of 0.35 standard deviation across economies. This implies that sectors' production and sales structures, and by extension their normalized backward and forward linkages, are invariant to the income level of their economies. To further investigate this pattern, a two-way analysis of variance was performed by grouping the economies into quintiles based on gross national income per capita, in keeping with the World Bank's (2021) income classification (Table 2.3). The results indicate that similar sectors' linkages within an income class do not vary significantly from sectors from another income class (F -statistic of less than 1 and F -critical value of 2.38). However, significant differences were noticeable from one sector group to another (F -statistic of 9.15 and F -critical value of 1.44). For example, the normalized backward linkages of food manufacturing sectors of the first quintile—namely in Hong Kong, China; Japan; the Republic of Korea; Singapore; and Taipei, China—were not statistically different from those of food manufacturers in Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, and Pakistan. However, food manufacturers' normalized backward linkages were remotely different from other sectors such as textiles or petroleum production.

Further, a supplementary finding is that variances of normalized forward linkages are larger than its backward linkage counterpart. For example, the F -value of normalized forward linkages across sectors was 16.86, compared to 9.14 recorded in normalized backward linkages. This stems from the observation that market sales structures tend to be less stable than production structures (Miller and Blair 2009) and that sectors in each economy are often composed of distinct products and occupy different positions in the value chain. For example, mining in different economies generally requires the use of heavy equipment, but the sales structure of the mining sector in Brunei Darussalam would tend to diverge from Kazakhstan's mining sector. The former's oil and gas extraction sector delivers a sizable amount to refineries, while the latter tends to supply to the basic metals sector.

Table 2.3: Results of Two-Way Analysis of Variance of Normalized Linkages, 2019

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
<i>Normalized backward linkages</i>						
Income	1.7764E-14	4	4.4409E-15	1.6685E-13	1	2.38465612
Sectors	8.27695469	34	0.24343984	9.14655212	3.3819E-37	1.44639133
Interaction	4.01818352	136	0.02954547	1.11008597	0.20426591	1.23279137
Within	18.6308336	700	0.02661548			
Total	30.9259718	874				
<i>Normalized forward linkages</i>						
Income	4.2633E-14	4	1.0658E-14	1.934E-13	1	2.38465612
Sectors	31.6053233	34	0.92956833	16.8679798	1.1624E-69	1.44639133
Interaction	6.29062624	136	0.0462546	0.83933769	0.89701987	1.23279137
Within	38.5759195	700	0.05510846			
Total	76.4718691	874				

df = degrees of freedom; F = F statistic; F crit = alpha value; MS = mean squares; P-value = probability that the alpha is the same as the values obtained from F-statistic; SS = sum of squares,

Source: Calculations by the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Database Team.

Net Linkages

Another method to normalize a sector's linkage is to consider both (i) how the rest of the economy reacts to changes in the sector's demand, and (ii) how the sector reacts to demand changes in other sectors. This two-sided dependence of a sector is summarized as the **net backward linkage** (Oosterhaven 2019). This variant of backward linkage gives the output generated in all sectors due to the demand for the buying sector's final products, and then normalized by the output generated by the supplying sector due to the final demand of all sectors. If the value is greater than 1, then the whole economy is more dependent on the sector for the purchase of inputs than the sector is dependent on the whole economy, and the opposite is true if the value is less than 1. More specifically, the net backward linkage is given by the following:

$$\text{Net backward linkages} = \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Leontief} \\ \text{column} \\ \text{sums} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{l} \text{Final output} \\ \text{coefficients} \end{array} \right) - \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Gross} \\ \text{backward} \\ \text{linkages} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{l} \text{Ability to generate own} \\ \text{demand-driven growth} \\ \text{impulses} \end{array} \right)$$

On the other hand, the **net forward linkage** provides the gross inputs of all sectors that utilize the primary input of the supplying sector, and then normalized by the gross input of the buying sector that utilized the primary inputs of all sectors. If the value is greater than 1, then the whole economy is more dependent on the sector for its supply of inputs than the sector is dependent on the whole economy, and vice versa if the value is less than 1. The net forward linkage is given by the following:

$$\text{Net forward linkages} = \left(\begin{matrix} \text{Ghosh} \\ \text{row} \\ \text{sums} \end{matrix} \times \begin{matrix} \text{Primary} \\ \text{input} \\ \text{coefficients} \end{matrix} \right) - \left(\begin{matrix} \text{Gross} \\ \text{forward} \\ \text{linkages} \end{matrix} \times \begin{matrix} \text{Ability to generate own} \\ \text{supply-driven growth} \\ \text{impulses} \end{matrix} \right)$$

These relationships are summarized in Table 2.4.

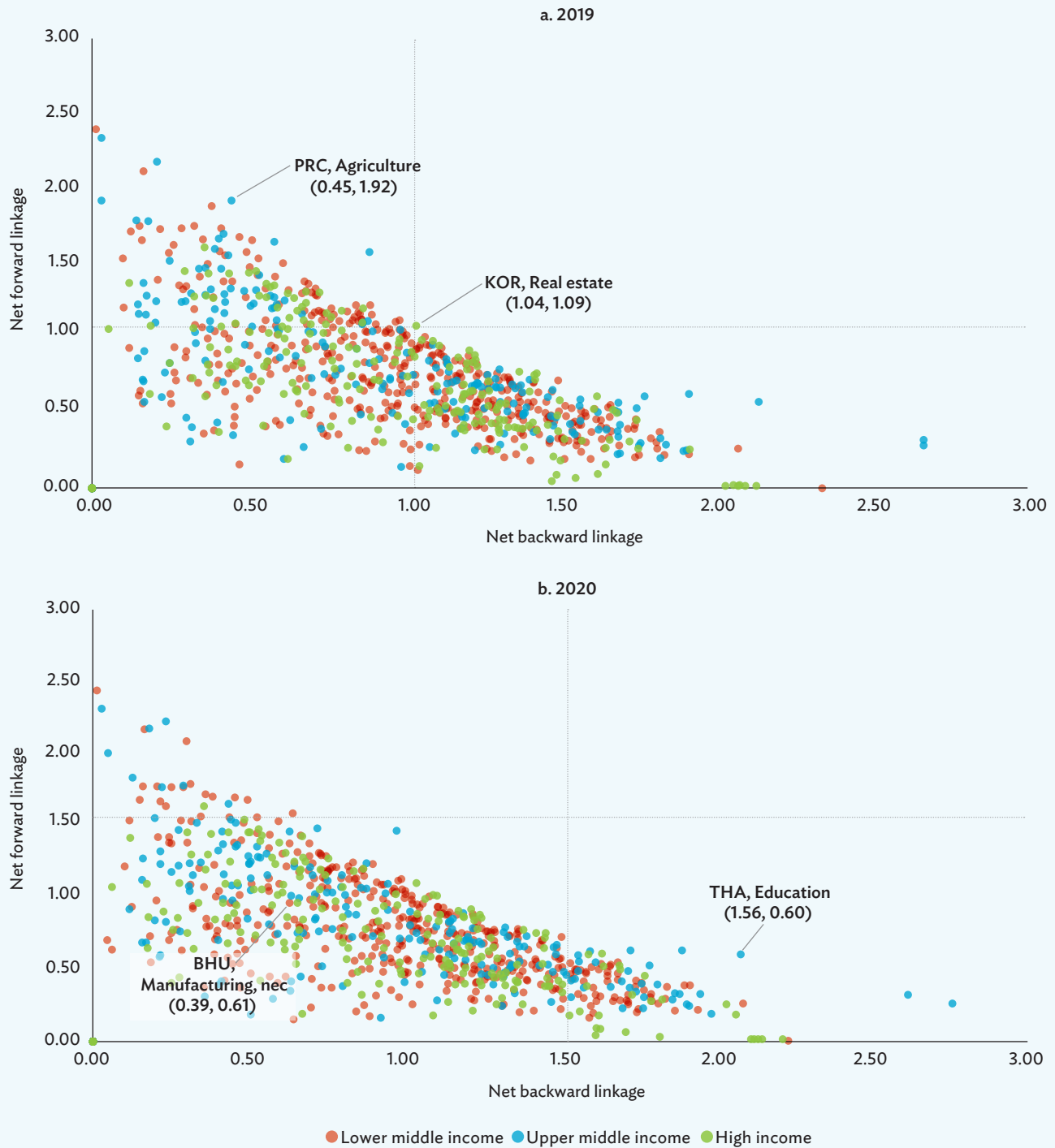
Table 2.4: Classification of Key Sectors Using Net Backward and Net Forward Linkages

		Backward Linkage	
		Low (<1)	High (>1)
Forward Linkage	High (>1)	Sector is dependent on the whole economy as a supplier; Whole economy is generally dependent on sector for inputs	Whole economy is generally dependent on sector
	Low (<1)	Sector is generally dependent on the whole economy	Whole economy is dependent on sector as suppliers; Sector is dependent on the whole economy for inputs

Source: Adapted from J. Oosterhaven. 2019. *Rethinking Input–Output Analysis: A Spatial Perspective*. SpringerBriefs in Regional Science. Springer, Cham.

Figure 2.12 plots the results based on the four-quadrant classification of Oosterhaven (2019). Most sectors of economies in Asia and the Pacific are not located in the first (upper right) quadrant. One of the few sectors found in this quadrant is the Republic of Korea’s real estate sector, both for 2019 and 2020. In 2019, the sector registered a net backward linkage of 1.04 and a net forward linkage of 1.05, implying higher economy-wide dependence on real estate services than the reverse. The PRC’s agriculture sector, meanwhile, is dependent on intersectoral supply and the economy is dependent on agricultural inputs (upper left quadrant). This characterizes the PRC’s agriculture sector as a main provider of raw materials for production by other sectors. Diametrically opposite to this is Thailand’s education sector, which recorded high net backward linkage and low net forward linkage in 2020 (lower right quadrant). Using Table 2.4, the economy’s education sector may be described as dependent on intersectoral supply, while the rest of the sectors are also dependent on the education sector’s demand for inputs. This implies that the education sector is a downstream sector that has mutual dependence with the other sectors, and that education services are mostly consumed as a final product and less as intermediate inputs to production. The Kyrgyz Republic’s finance sector exhibited general dependence (lower left quadrant), as was the case under normalized linkages. The same may be said for Bhutan’s manufacturing sector (not elsewhere classified), which showed low net forward and backward linkages. This is typical of sectors that require complex and diverse inputs from other sectors, but whose outputs are also further consumed in the production process of other sectors.

Figure 2.12: Net Linkages of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific



BHU = Bhutan; KOR = Republic of Korea; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; PRC = People’s Republic of China; THA = Thailand.
Note: “Net” linkages refer to “gross” linkages weighted by the respective sector’s ability to generate own growth impulses (Oosterhaven 2008). Net backward linkages are derived from Leontief column sums multiplied by final demand coefficients, while net forward linkages are derived from Ghosh row sums multiplied by value-added coefficients.
Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adb.xonline/> (accessed July 2021); and J. Oosterhaven. 2008. A New Approach to the Selection of Key Sectors: Net Forward and Net Backward Linkages. *International IO Meeting on Managing the Environment*. Seville.

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Similar to the discussion on normalized linkages, one can compare the effect of income levels to the results of net linkages in Figure 2.12. The two-way analysis of variance reveal that differences in net linkages exist across sector groups, but no significant differences are found across income groups. The *F*-statistic across income groups for both net backward and net forward linkages were less than the stated critical values, indicating that no noticeable differences exist across income levels (Table 2.5). The opposite was true, however, across sector groups. This is again consistent with the findings from normalized linkages, except that sector-specific characteristics are magnified in net linkages as evidenced by higher *F*-statistics compared to those observed in normalized linkages. For example, financial and real estate services often exhibit some similarities in their cost structures. Average total backward linkages of these two sectors were not too distant from each other, typically ranging from 1.3 to 1.4. However, net backward linkages showed marked difference between the two sectors. Net backward linkage for the finance sector across economies averaged at 0.52, while the real estate sector was estimated at 0.84. The larger net linkage for the latter reflects the fact that housing services occupy a greater share in (households') final demand than do financial services. However, net linkages of real estate tend to behave similarly across economies irrespective of the income status. As a result, net linkages generally accentuate sector-specific characteristics more than normalized linkages.

Table 2.5: Results of Two-Way Analysis of Variance of Net Linkages, 2019

Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
<i>Net backward linkages</i>						
Income	1.32857338	4	0.33214334	2.26667417	0.06056861	2.38465612
Sectors	83.5099807	34	2.4561759	16.7618908	2.9684E-69	1.44639133
Interaction	18.4564169	136	0.13570895	0.92613015	0.70670459	1.23279137
Within	102.57334	700	0.14653334			
Total	205.868311	874				
<i>Net forward linkages</i>						
Income	0.24245243	4	0.06061311	0.66234268	0.61831885	2.38465612
Sectors	64.924893	34	1.90955568	20.8664477	2.6091E-84	1.44639133
Interaction	11.7422214	136	0.08633986	0.94346882	0.65764844	1.23279137
Within	64.0592491	700	0.09151321			
Total	140.968816	874				

df = degrees of freedom; F = F statistic; F crit = alpha value; MS = mean squares; P-value = probability that the alpha is the same as the values obtained from F-statistic; SS = sum of squares,

Source: Calculations by the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Database Team.

Hypothetical Extraction

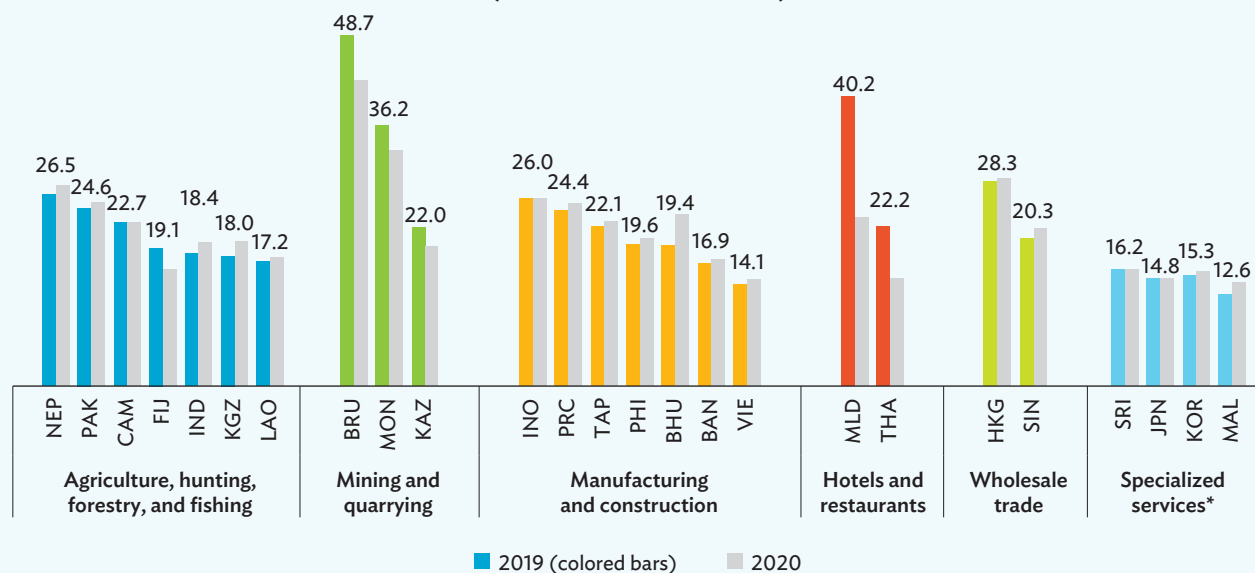
The hypothetical extraction method (HEM) measures the relative importance of a particular sector or activity in the economy (Oosterhaven 2019; Miller and Blair 2009). This method departs from the traditional practice of taking a sector's share of value-added to total GDP. Instead, HEM takes a creative approach by assuming that a sector vanishes from the economy, and the impact from the hypothetical exercise is construed as a measure of the sector's importance and linkages.

In this section, the sector is extracted by zeroing out all its supplies in the rows as well as its demand in the columns in the IOT, thereby effectively nullifying all intersectoral linkages and contribution of this sector. Then, the IOT without the extracted sector is run in the standard Leontief method to project the economy's level of output in the hypothetical scenario. Since supplies of the sector are eliminated, other sectors lose supply of corresponding inputs and final consumers fail to meet their demand for the extracted product. In addition, since the demands of the sector are also eliminated, the economy loses the intersectoral demand from the extracted sector itself (i.e., input-producing sectors experience reductions in sales). In sum, scarcity in supply and demand induced by extracting the sector is in effect a measure of its importance in the overall economy.

Using data for 2019 and 2020, Figure 2.13 shows the sectors that incurred the largest impact to the economy from the HEM exercise. Notice that many economies in the sample registered the agriculture sector as the most impactful from the HEM. Considerable, too, is the size of the potential impacts of mining and quarrying in Brunei Darussalam and Mongolia. Expectedly, Maldives in 2019 showed high reliance on the hotel and restaurant sector until 2020 saw a drastic decline in the sector's contribution to the island economy. Evidently, Singapore and Hong Kong, China displayed the highest economic impacts in wholesale trading activity. Meanwhile, Japan and the Republic of Korea owed a large portion of their economies to real estate activities and business services, respectively. Taipei, China showed concentration in the manufacture of electronics and electrical equipment, while the Philippines and Viet Nam⁷ largely manufactured food, beverages, and tobacco products. The neighboring economy of Indonesia was, however, more driven by construction activities as were Bangladesh, Bhutan, and the PRC.

⁷ Results for Viet Nam showed that the wholesale trade sector registered the highest impact. However, since the IOT of Viet Nam aggregates the wholesale and retail trade activity, the impacts arising from both are combined in the HEM results. As an ad hoc exercise, splitting the trade sector into two downgrades the wholesale sector's overall impact, placing the food, beverage, and tobacco sector to the top rank.

Figure 2.13: Sectors with the Highest Value-Added Impact from a Hypothetical Extraction
(% of total value-added)



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: 1. Shown for each economy is the sector that recorded the highest value-added impact in 2019 and the comparative result in 2020.

2. The top sector for Japan is real estate activities; for the Republic of Korea, renting of machinery and equipment and other business activities; for Malaysia, public administration and defense; and for Sri Lanka, other community, social, and personal services.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

2.3 Summary

A national input-output table holds vital information on the structure and extent of intersectoral connections within an economy. Input-output-based methods for analysis allow one to measure these connections and determine any key sectors in an economy. In 2019 and 2020, Asia and the Pacific observed waning yet still significant value-added shares of services within the region. However, in terms of linkages, Asian economies exhibited considerable dependence on the manufacturing sector, mainly on food and beverage production and the refining of fuels. This suggests that, while these sectors could have growth-inducing effects on the economy, extensive linkages could likewise spread undesirable impulses to the system in the form of negative shocks. Hence, careful evaluation of policies and market structures of these sectors is warranted. Also observed in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, and the PRC are sectors that predominantly generate larger value-added than the regional average, considering intersectoral transactions. In addition, key sector analyses show that only a few sectors in the region exhibited economy-wide dependence for both their supply and demand of inputs. Few sectors found to be highly dependent on both upstream and downstream sectors include the Kyrgyz Republic's finance sector, Viet Nam's refined fuels sector, and Sri Lanka's manufacturing sector for paper-related products.

While there are a myriad of multiplier and linkage indicators to choose from, the use of these statistics depends on the concept and objective for development strategies. As a starting point, Table 2.6 broadly describes different multiplier and linkage indicators that can be employed in research and analysis.

Table 2.6: Applications of Multiplier and Linkage Indicators

Indicator	Description	Some Applications
Simple value-added multiplier	Value-added in the whole economy embodied in one unit of exogenous final demand of sector j .	Analysis of sector's potential to generate economy-wide income
Type I value-added multiplier	Ratio of simple value-added multiplier to the direct value-added embodied in one unit of final demand in sector j .	Same as above, but with more focus on sector's capacity to induce spillover effects relative to its demand stimulus
First-round effects	Direct intermediate inputs required from the whole economy per unit of exogenous final demand of sector j . Also the ratio of a sector's intermediate inputs per unit of output.	Analysis of a sector's dependence on direct suppliers
Industrial support effects	Sum of subsequent rounds of indirect intermediate inputs required from the whole economy per unit of final demand in sector j , excluding the first round.	Analysis of a sector's dependence on suppliers of its direct suppliers
Production-induced effects	Total indirect intermediate inputs required from the whole economy per unit of exogenous final demand of sector j , or simply the sum of first-round and industrial support effects.	Analysis of sector's dependence on all upstream suppliers
Sectoral multiplier	Total production required from producing sector i to purchasing sector j to satisfy one unit of demand for sector j products.	Granular analysis of how demand in one sector can potentially induce production in another sector
Direct backward linkage	Ratio of a sector's intermediate inputs to its total output. This is a direct measure of a sector's dependence on intersectoral supply of inputs. This measure is equivalent to first-round effects and the demand-side analog of direct forward linkage.	Basic measure of a sector's direct dependence on intersectoral inputs per unit of its output
Direct forward linkage	Ratio of a sector's intermediate sales to its total output. This is a direct measure of a sector's dependence on intersectoral demand for its output. This is the supply-side analog of direct backward linkage.	Basic measure of a sector's direct dependence on intersectoral demands per unit of its supply
Normalized total backward linkage	Total backward linkage of a sector divided by the arithmetic average of all sectors' total backward linkage in a given economy and period. Values greater than 1 indicate higher-than-average backward linkage of a sector.	Analysis of sector's dependence on intersectoral supply relative to the economy-wide average
Normalized total forward linkage	Total forward linkage of a sector divided by the arithmetic average of all sectors' total forward linkage in a given economy and period. Values greater than 1 indicate higher-than-average forward linkage of a sector.	Analysis of sector's dependence on intersectoral demand relative to the economy-wide average
Total backward linkage (or simple output multiplier)	Total amount of production required from all input-supplying sectors to satisfy one unit of demand for the sector's output.	Analysis of sector's direct and indirect dependence on intersectoral supplies or its economic relationship to upstream sectors
Total forward linkage	Total amount of production available to all input-purchasing sectors as a result of a unit change in a sector's primary inputs.	Analysis of sector's direct and indirect dependence on intersectoral demands or its economic relationship to downstream sectors
Complete hypothetical extraction linkage (backward)	Total backward linkage divided by the output multiplier of sector j demand to the production of the same sector $j=i$ (or diagonal elements $[ij]$ in the Leontief inverse).	Analysis of a purchasing sector's ability to transmit a given stimulus' effects to other sectors; conversely, an analysis of how a sector's demand-driven impacts are confined and localized within the sectoral grouping

continued on next page.

Table 2.6 *continued.*

Indicator	Description	Some Applications
Complete hypothetical extraction linkage (forward)	Total forward linkage divided by the input multiplier of sector i supply to the production of the same sector $i=j$ (or diagonal elements $[g_{ii}]$ in the Ghosh inverse).	Analysis of a supplying sector's ability to transmit a given stimulus' effects to other sectors; conversely, an analysis of how a sector's supply-driven impacts are confined and localized within the sectoral grouping
Partial hypothetical extraction linkage (backward)	Total backward linkage less the initial effect ($=1$), divided by the output multiplier of sector j demand to the production of the same sector $j=i$ (or diagonal elements $[l_{jj}]$ in the Leontief inverse). This refers to the strength of production induced in sectors other than the source of exogenous change in demand of final products j .	Same as complete hypothetical extraction linkage (backward), but excluding the sector's initial impact on its demand to solely focus on demand-side interactions
Partial hypothetical extraction linkage (forward)	Total forward linkage less the initial effect ($=1$), divided by the input multiplier of sector i supply to the production of the same sector $i=j$ (or diagonal elements $[g_{ii}]$ in the Ghosh inverse). This refers to the strength of production induced in sectors other than the source of exogenous change in supply of primary inputs i .	Same as complete hypothetical extraction linkage (forward), but excluding the sector's initial impact on its primary inputs to solely focus on supply-side interactions
Net backward linkage	Total backward linkage of a sector multiplied by the ratio of its final demand to the economy-wide gross output. This index scales the value of total backward linkage to the corresponding size of a sector's demand in the economy.	Analysis of sector's demand-driven economy-wide impacts, but correcting for its relative share in the total final demand in the economy
Net forward linkage	Total forward linkage of a sector multiplied by the ratio of its value-added to the economy-wide gross output. This index scales the value of total forward linkage to the corresponding size of the sector's value-added in the economy.	Analysis of sector's supply-driven economy-wide impacts, but correcting for its relative share in the total value-added in the economy
Absolute impact of sector's hypothetical extraction	Total (direct and indirect) amount of value-added lost in the economy as a result of nullifying the sector's supply (forward linkage) and use (backward linkage) in the economy.	Study of a sector's overall dollar contribution to the economy, both as a supplier and source of demand
Relative impact of sector's hypothetical extraction	Share of total value-added lost from the sector's hypothetical extraction to the total value-added in the economy.	Study of a sector's overall dollar contribution to the economy, both as a supplier and source of demand, normalized to the size of the economy's gross domestic product

Source: Compiled by the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Database Team.

The analysis of domestic sectors and their interactions is necessary, but the realities of an integrated world economy should also be explored, given that the implications of various policy scenarios run beyond domestic borders. In a globalized setting, domestic sectors are now forming links with production chains across borders, in line with the precipitous decline in transportation costs, the impressive growth of emerging markets, and the rise of digital technologies. Hence, with deepening trade, it is apparent that assessing international linkages is as valuable as considering local linkages, especially in terms of access to key foreign inputs and external markets. The extension of these national input–output-based models to multiregional settings significantly expands the framework's analytical uses to include linkages with foreign economies. This international perspective in analyzing trade and production linkages is explored in the next chapter.

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International Linkages

This chapter expands the scope of economic interactions to include the supply and use relationships of domestic sectors with foreign producers and consumers. Given the availability of internationally linked national input-output tables, trade activity can be examined in greater detail, such as facilitating the analysis of global value chains, reshoring, and comparative advantages, among other topics.

A fundamental concept in economics is that supply tends to meet demand. The discussion in the previous chapter emphasized the production of domestic sectors and the role other local sectors may play in fulfilling output requirements. Due to various reasons, however, demand in an economy is not always satisfied by domestic producers. One economy may be endowed with certain resources, while another may lack the capacity to foster and develop its economic advantages. While some economies are rich in minerals, precious metals, or fossil fuels, others experience scarcity in these resources. Some economies have advanced infrastructure or a highly skilled workforce, while others do not.

There has been significant interest, especially in recent literature, as to whether domestic economies are in the position of meeting their own needs (Bohn et al. 2021; Byé et al. 2021; Honsakhone et al. 2021; Ishikawa 2019; Jackson 2020; METI 2011; PSA 2006; Pourrostami 2018; Sim et al. 2007). This is traditionally measured in terms of self-sufficiency.

3.1 Self-Sufficiency

Borrowing from applications in food security and agriculture statistics, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (1999) uses self-sufficiency to describe the extent to which an economy can satisfy its own demands. This ratio is useful in determining internal (or intraregional) dependence, domestic supply and demand gaps, and the need to tap foreign sources to meet such gaps. The self-sufficiency index is calculated by taking the proportion of domestic production to domestic consumption. Domestic consumption includes all intermediate inputs and final demand consumed in the domestic economy, irrespective of origin, and excludes exports.

A ratio or index equal to 1 signifies that total production equals total consumption, or perfect self-sufficiency. On an aggregate level, a ratio above 1 means that an economy is deemed to have domestic production levels significant enough to cover domestic demand levels. Conversely, a ratio less than 1 indicates low self-sufficiency. In this case, such economies may require foreign supply of goods and services to meet domestic needs.

These economy-wide interpretations hold if all sectors in the economy are homogenous, which in reality is not always the case. Thus, to offer an alternative perspective on economy-wide self-sufficiency rates, Figure 3.1 shows the percentage change in output (domestic production) and domestic demand from 2019 to 2020 among the sampled economies. Distinguishing between the growth in domestic production and demand allows for a clearer understanding of the decline in self-sufficiency across the 25 economies of Asia and the Pacific. Compared to change in output, a larger upswing (or smaller contraction) in domestic demand signifies whether an economy's self-sufficiency declines versus 2019 levels.

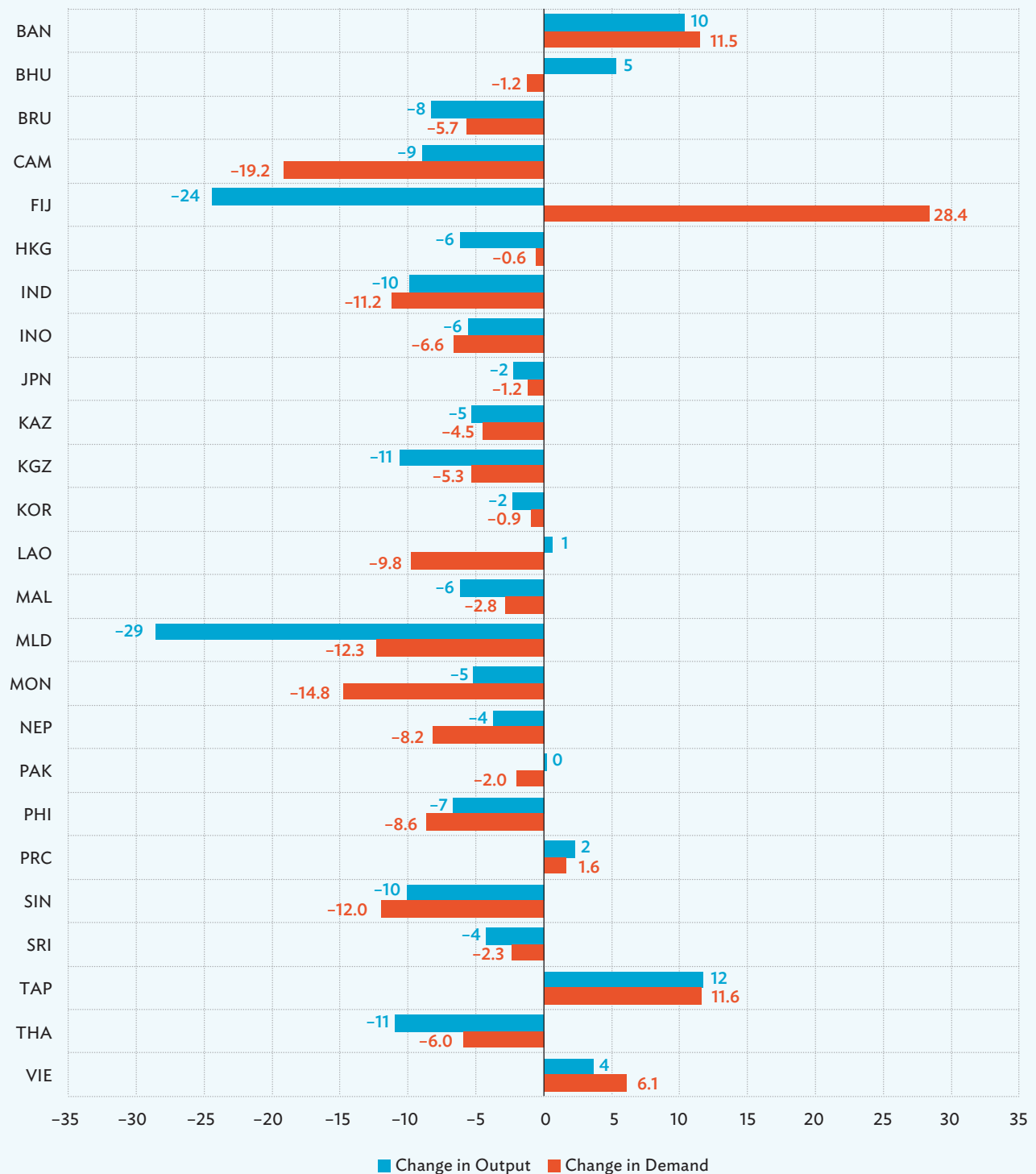
The island economies of Maldives and Fiji experienced the largest declines in output from 2019 to 2020: 29% and 24%, respectively. Further, Fiji's domestic demand grew by more than 28% in 2020. Meanwhile, amidst the pandemic, Bangladesh; the People's Republic of China (PRC); Taipei, China; and Viet Nam posted growth in both output and domestic demand, although only the PRC and Taipei, China saw increases in domestic production exceed growth in domestic demand.

Output either grew by more or contracted by less than domestic demand in 12 economies: Bhutan; Cambodia; Indonesia; India; the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR); Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; the Philippines; the PRC; Singapore; and Taipei, China. The Lao PDR exhibited a notable growth of 11.5% in self-sufficiency, although this was not due to a remarkable increase in domestic production but by a 9.8% contraction in domestic demand, the largest recorded in Asia and the Pacific.

Figure 3.2 presents the 10 economy-sectors with the highest self-sufficiency ratios. Hong Kong, China's wood manufacturing sector ranks the highest in both years, with a self-sufficiency ratio of 138.5 in 2019 and 141 in 2020. Wood consumption in the economy is not as significant as consumption in other sectors as seen from Hong Kong, China's small demand for domestic and foreign intermediate inputs and final goods. Additionally, in both years, Hong Kong, China produced more wood and wood products for export than for local use. Thus, production of wood outputs geared toward exports drove the economy's self-sufficiency index up.

The sector that mostly appears in both year's rankings is the air transport sector. More air transport services in Bhutan, Mongolia, and Maldives, as both intermediate inputs and final outputs, are exported to the rest of the world than are purchased by domestic firms, households, and governments. Purchases of domestic air transport

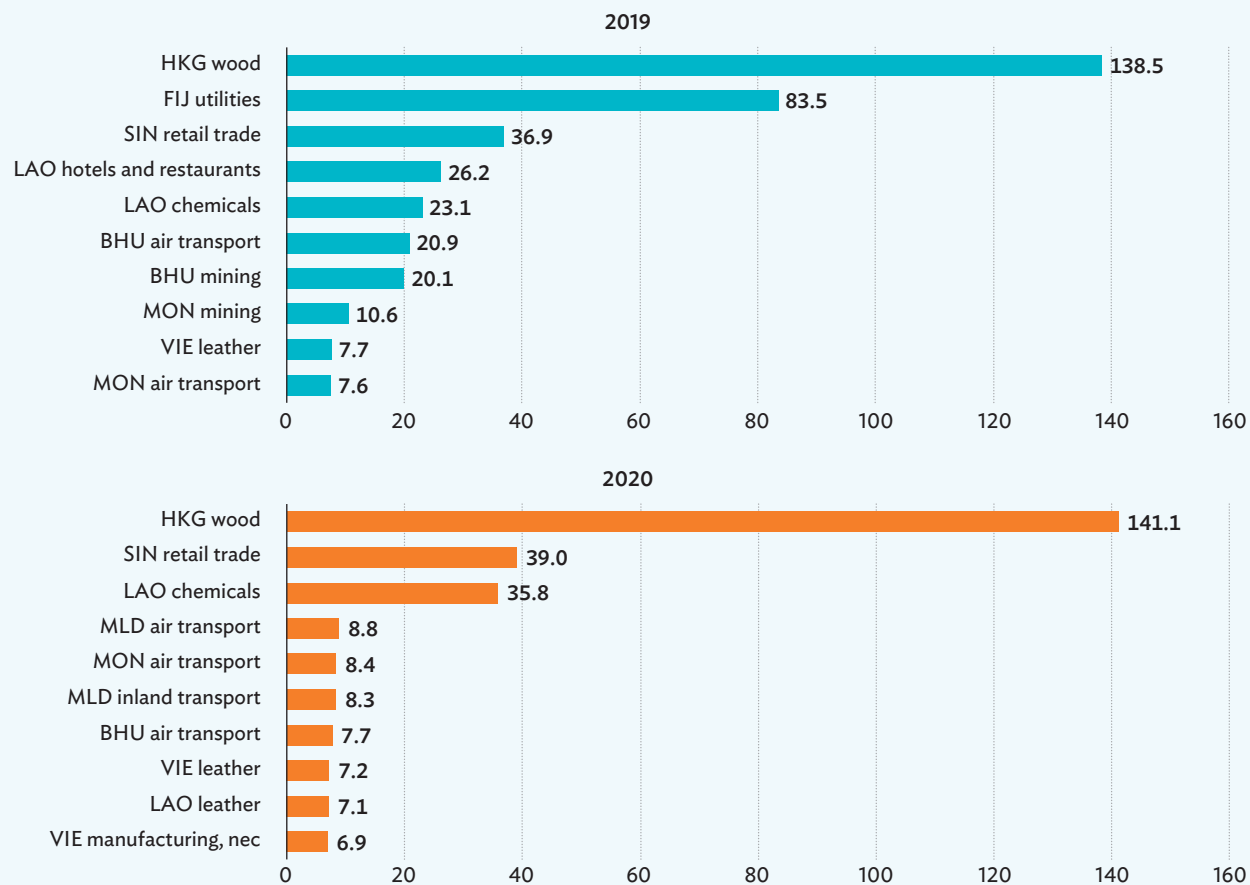
Figure 3.1: Change in Output and Domestic Demand of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2019 to 2020 (%)



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam
 Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Figure 3.2: Sectors with the Highest Self-Sufficiency Ratios in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific



BHU = Bhutan; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; nec = not elsewhere classified; SIN = Singapore; VIE = Viet Nam.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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services by local industries and final consumers are much weaker compared to the imports from the rest of the world, which suggests that these economy-sectors service foreign firms, tourists, and travelers more substantially.

Taking the self-sufficiency index on an economy-wide level masks the heterogeneity of each sector in the mix. To illustrate, surplus service outputs certainly could not compensate for deficits in manufacturing output without material transformations in technology, labor, and resources. Firms that are unable to meet domestic and foreign demands would rather source their inputs abroad to be able to produce their goods and services.

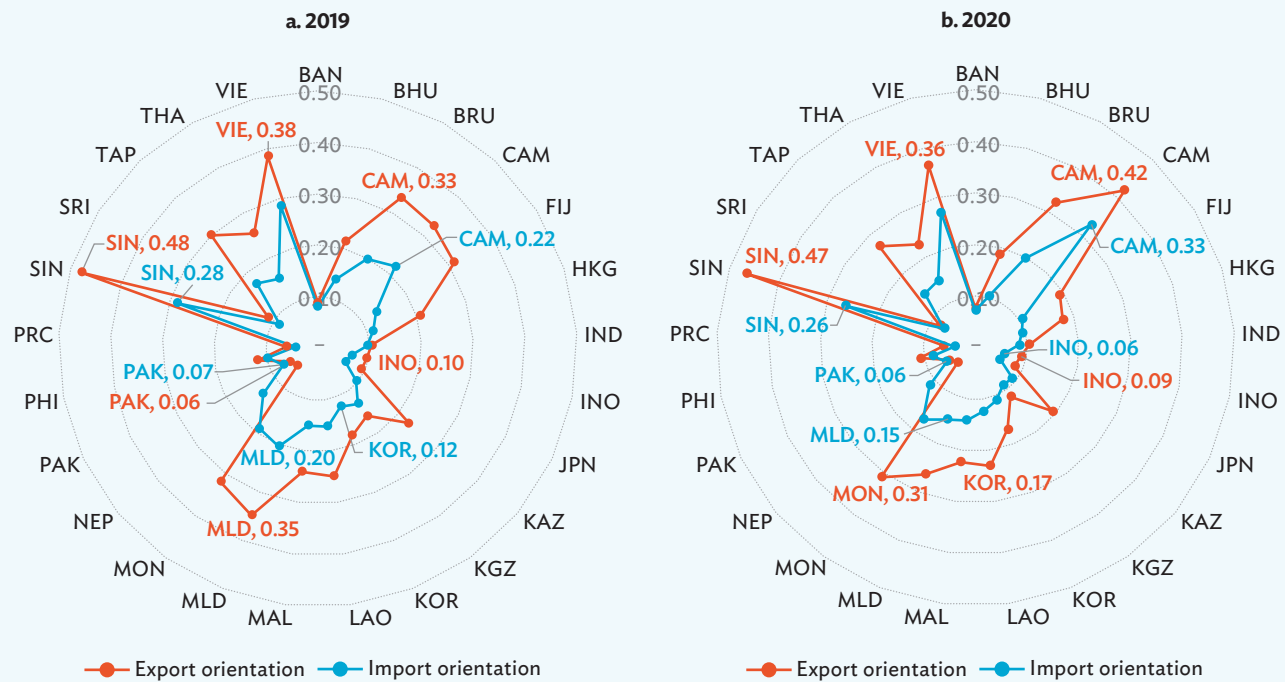
3.2 Trade Orientation

In the modern global economy, local sectors do not operate independently. Businesses require access to overseas markets to source and supply their goods and services. Moreover, consumers in an economy also demand certain products that are not produced domestically. As economies develop and modernize, businesses tend to internationalize and consumers expand preferences beyond their own borders. To meet these needs, economies engage in international trade. This allows domestic producers to access inputs from abroad as well as exploit market opportunities for exports, while consumers can purchase products from international suppliers. Each economy may gravitate toward exporting more than importing or vice versa. Understanding the trade orientation of sectors and economies can inform trade and development strategies.

The trade orientation of a given sector within a given economy (described here as an “economy-sector”) can be determined by its relative levels of, or dependence on, export and import activity. The **export orientation** (or *export-to-output ratio*) is obtained by dividing the economy-sector’s exports to total output. Conversely, **import orientation** (or *import-to-input ratio*) is measured by taking an economy-sector’s share of intermediate imports to total intermediate and primary inputs. A unit of output comprises all intermediate and primary inputs devoted to production; thus, total output is the same as total input. By looking at both measures, an economy’s trade orientation simply provides the share of its total output (or total input) that is involved in external activities. Export-to-output and import-to-input ratios can similarly be calculated on a national level by taking the economy-wide aggregates of exports, intermediate imports, and gross output.

Figure 3.3 presents economy-wide export and import orientation ratios for 2019 and 2020. Noticeably, both trade ratios shrank in all economies except Cambodia. Singapore, Viet Nam, and Cambodia were the most trade-oriented economies in 2019 and 2020. While the two former economies experienced a slight decrease in trade orientation ratios, Cambodia saw a rise from 0.33 to 0.42 in export orientation and 0.22 to 0.33 in import orientation. The boost in Cambodia’s trade orientation ratios was in part due to the economy’s increased external trading activity and a lower output in 2020. The economy’s non-imposition of exports ban, slight currency depreciation in 2020 against the United States dollar, and a surge in demand for products (such as machinery, electronics, bicycles, and milled rice) were some of the factors which brought trade levels upward. Meanwhile, Japan and the PRC, economies recognized as top importers and exporters, had ratios close to 0, indicating that the majority of their total production is sourced from and supplied to domestic sectors.

Figure 3.3: Trade Orientation of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific



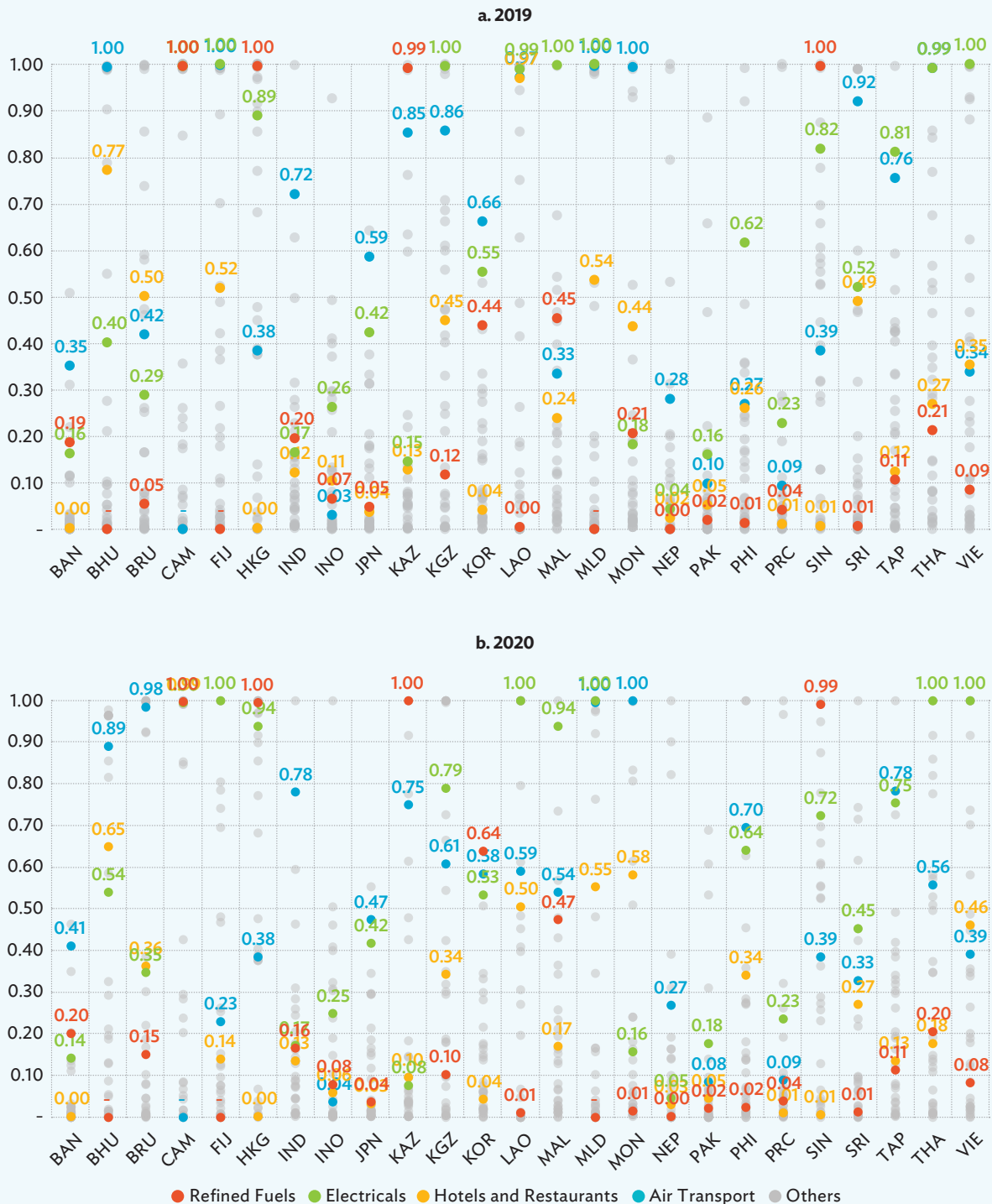
BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei,China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.
Note: Exports, intermediate imports, and output were aggregated to calculate economy-wide import-to-input and export-to-output ratios.
Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

On a sectoral level, most economies experienced a shrinking in export and import activities relative to output production from 2019 to 2020 (Figures 3.4 and 3.5). Most import-to-input ratios of purchasing sectors were much smaller than the export-to-output ratios of their producing counterparts, indicating that economies were more actively exporting than importing and could sustain local demand via domestic production. With the exception of Bangladesh, Japan, Pakistan, and the Republic of Korea, all economies had producing sectors with export-to-output ratios of 1 or close to 1. This observation is more apparent in Figure 3.4, which shows the export-to-output ratios of all economy-sectors in the region. Four sectors of interest are arbitrarily highlighted: production of refined fuels, electricals manufacturing, hotels and restaurants, and air transport.

Across the 25 economies for 2019 and 2020, the most export-oriented producing sectors were electricals, water transport services, and air transport services. The air transport sector was a close contender in 2019; it was found in the three most export-oriented sectors of Bangladesh; Bhutan; Fiji; India; Japan; Mongolia; the Republic of Korea; Taipei,China; and Thailand. However, due to the closure of

Figure 3.4: Export Orientation Ratios of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Sector



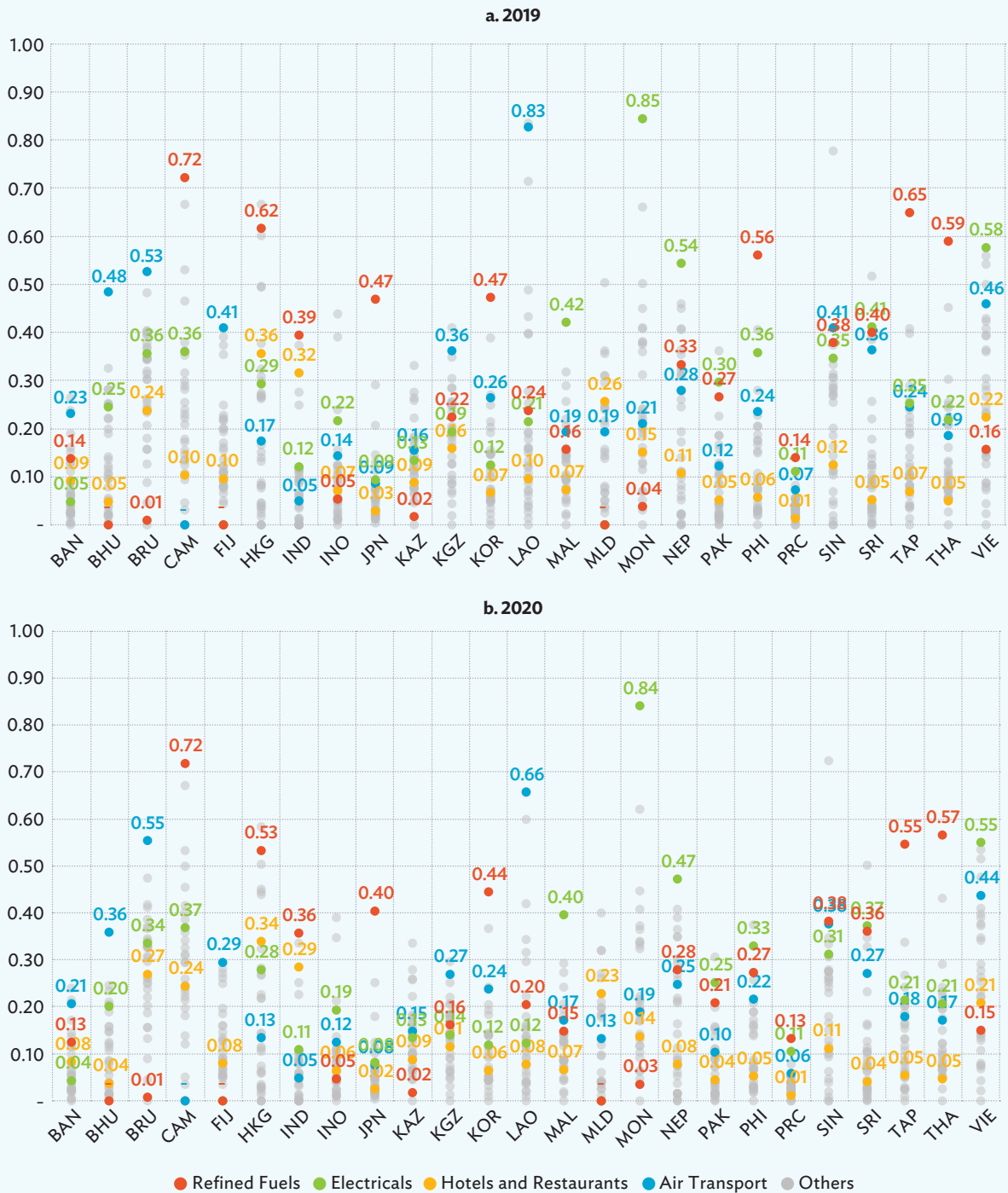
BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: Exports, intermediate imports, and output were aggregated to calculate economy-wide import-to-input and export-to-output ratios.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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Figure 3.5: Import Orientation Ratios of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, by Sector



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: Exports, intermediate imports, and output were aggregated to calculate economy-wide import-to-input and export-to-output ratios.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.org/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

borders in 2020, export-to-output ratios in all economies fell, except in Maldives and Mongolia where airport and aviation services may have been dedicated entirely to nonresident passengers and foreign freight, and in Bhutan which experienced a significant decline in output.

With an export-to-output ratio of 1, Fiji, Malaysia, Maldives, and Viet Nam had electricals as their most export-oriented producing sector in 2019 and 2020. Japan; the Kyrgyz Republic; Malaysia; the Philippines; the Republic of Korea; Taipei, China; and Thailand also exhibited strong export-to-output ratios in electricals compared to other sectors. Although the entire Asia and Pacific region saw relatively incremental shifts in export orientation of electricals, Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic faced a significant drop in the ratio due to increased output and declining exports. Conversely, Bhutan and Brunei Darussalam experienced growth related to elevated export levels in electricals.

Export-to-output ratios in production of refined fuels, in contrast to those in air transport and electricals, sat in the lower segments of the figures, since fewer economies engaged in processing crude oil and petroleum for export. The Lao PDR, Nepal, and the Philippines exported sparse amounts of refined fuels, while Bhutan, Fiji, and Maldives did not export refined fuels at all. Meanwhile, Cambodia; Hong Kong, China; Kazakhstan; and Singapore were the most export-oriented in refined fuels, with ratios close to parity.

The export-to-output ratios in the hotels and restaurants sector varied widely across economies. Generally, East Asian economies, except Mongolia, did not dedicate much of their output to exports: Hong Kong, China;¹ Japan; the PRC, and the Republic of Korea exported less than 5% of their output in this sector. The index was much higher in all Southeast Asian economies, except Singapore. Cambodia and the Lao PDR topped the region in both 2019 and 2020. Tourist hotspots such as Fiji and Maldives boasted greater than average export-to-output shares of 0.52 and 0.54, respectively, in 2019. Maldives maintained its share (0.55) in 2020 despite a sharp decrease in output and export levels (approximately 60%). This is attributable to the Government of Maldives' decision to reopen borders for international travelers early in July 2020. Meanwhile, Fiji dropped to a share of 0.14 in 2020 due to an 80% drop in exports. The economy started welcoming international tourists only on 1 December 2021, almost 2 years after it closed its borders in March 2020.

¹ Value for Hong Kong, China excludes direct purchases by nonresidents in the domestic territory.

Looking at Figure 3.5, import-to-input ratios are smaller overall compared to export-to-output ratios. However, there are a few economy-sectors in the region that rely significantly on imported inputs. As observed, only Mongolia's electricals purchasing sector comes the closest in relying completely on imports of inputs, with an import-to-input ratio of 0.84 in 2019 and 0.85 in 2020. Production of refined fuels in Cambodia also features a relatively large import-orientation index of 0.72 in both years. These two purchasing sectors are the most import-oriented sectors across Asia and the Pacific.

In addition, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the PRC, Sri Lanka, and Viet Nam regard the electricals sector as a significant importing industry. For 2019 and 2020, electricals maintained its position as the most import-oriented sector in Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, and Viet Nam, whereas Fiji and Maldives performed rather low on this metric. This is because the majority of the electrical imports in these two economies are for final consumption and, compared to other economies, production of electricals for domestic consumption and exporting is minimal.

Production of refined fuels was in the three most import-oriented sectors in 12 of the 25 participating economies: Cambodia; Hong Kong, China; India; Japan; Pakistan; the Philippines; the PRC; the Republic of Korea; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Taipei, China; and Thailand. This is expected, given not all economies have sufficient petroleum, coal, and oil reserves that can be tapped and processed into usable fuels for domestic consumption. Moreover, each economy has specific input requirements and considerations for power generation. For instance, the PRC is considered a top oil- and coal-producing economy, yet it is also a top importer of the same inputs. India is both a large coal producer and importer. On the other hand, Indonesia has substantial oil reserves and does not import significantly for further processing. Bhutan, Fiji, and Maldives have zero import-to-input ratios, signifying that they only import coal and crude oil as inputs to production minimally.

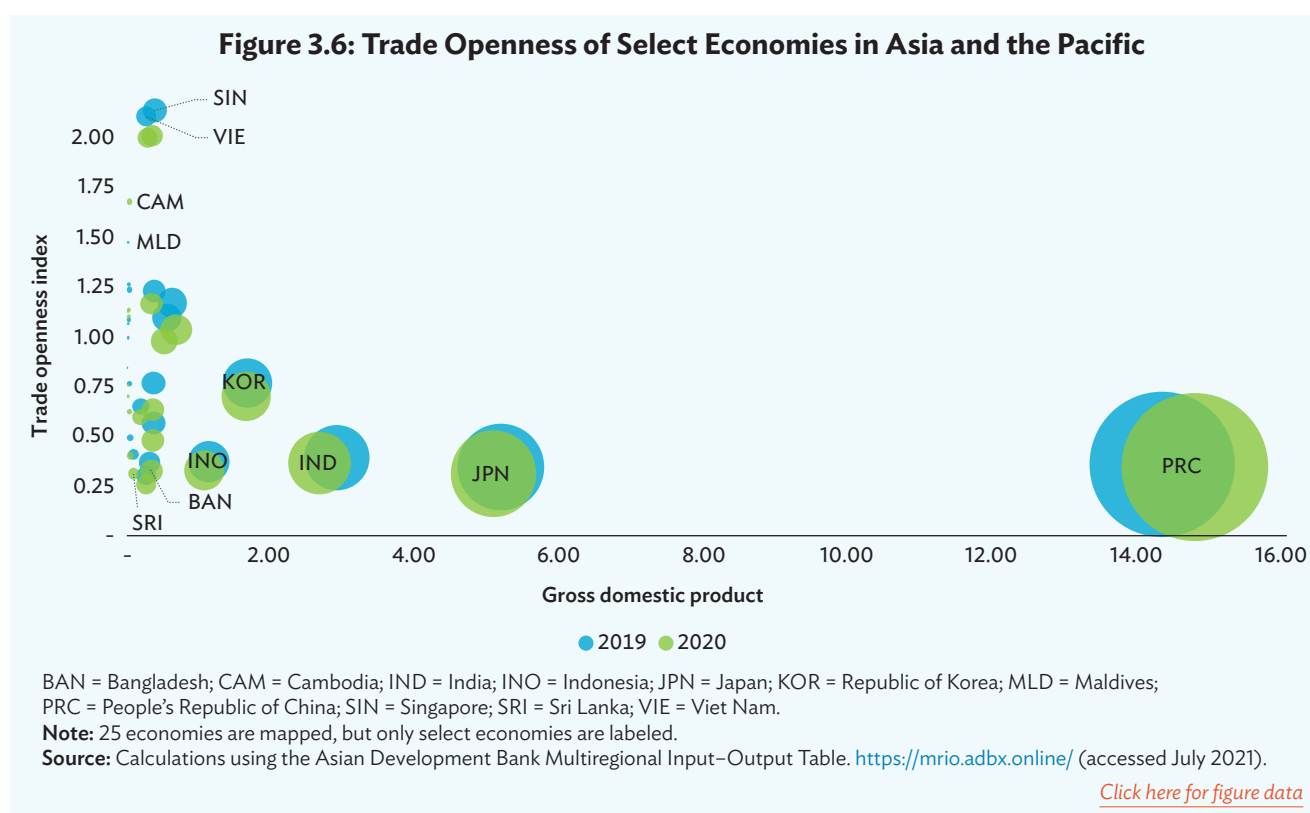
3.3 Trade Openness

The two sides of trade orientation—exporting and importing activity—can be summarized in a **trade openness** index that considers an economy's gross domestic product (GDP). Also called the trade-to-GDP ratio, trade openness is a measure of the extent to which an economy is integrated in the global economy through trade. It is measured simply by taking the ratio of the economy's total exports and imports to the total GDP. Thus, a value greater than 1 indicates higher reliance on trade, as total trade activity exceeds value-added generation by the domestic economy. A value below 1 may indicate lower dependence on trade, or lower participation in trading which may be due to economic crises, currency fluctuations, supply disruptions, and demand changes, among others.

Figure 3.6 depicts the trade openness indexes mapped and scaled to the GDP (in trillions) of the 25 economies in Asia and the Pacific for 2019 and 2020. Comparing these 2 years, trade openness in all economies, except Brunei Darussalam and Cambodia, fell by an average of 13%. However, not all economies experienced a severe contraction in GDP. For instance, Bangladesh, the PRC, and Viet Nam experienced some economic growth despite the pandemic. Most remarkably, Cambodia's trade activity experienced a rise in both imports and exports, consistent with the findings from the trade orientation ratios.

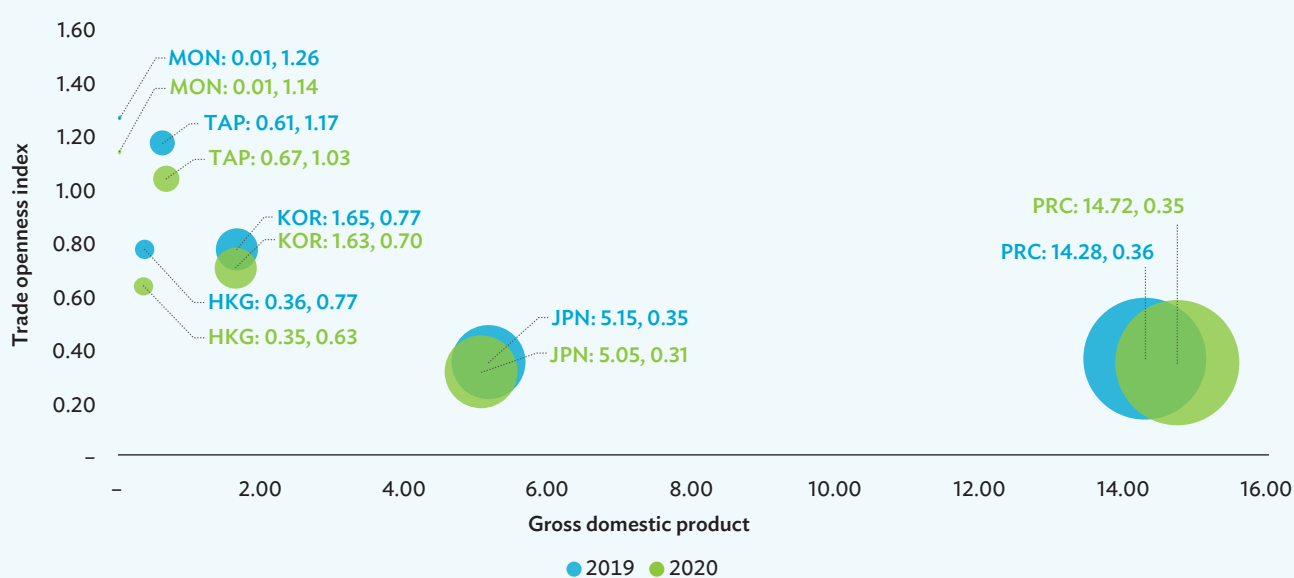
Evidently, smaller economies are more dependent on trade. Driven by stable levels of exports and imports in electrical and optical equipment, Viet Nam and Singapore led with total trade eclipsing GDP in 2019 and 2020. Generally, trade openness seems to be inversely related to the size of an economy. Trade openness of the five largest economies in Asia and the Pacific (by order of GDP levels)—the PRC, Japan, India, the Republic of Korea, and Indonesia—fell below 1 in both 2019 and 2020.

Most economies with relatively higher degrees of trade openness belong to Southeast Asia and the Pacific, while those with lower degrees of trade openness are found in South and Central Asia.



In East Asia, the PRC, Japan, and the Republic of Korea boasted the highest trading levels for both 2019 and 2020 (Figure 3.7). The former two economies were the largest producers in all of Asia and the Pacific in 2019 and 2020. However, their immense domestic production bases were irrelevant in the context of trade activities, ranking only 23rd and 24th, respectively, among the 25 participating economies in terms of trade openness in 2019. Meanwhile, Mongolia, albeit the smallest in terms of trade and domestic production, ranked fourth in the entire region and was only one of two economies in East Asia with trade openness indexes above 1.

Figure 3.7: Trade Openness of Select Economies in East Asia



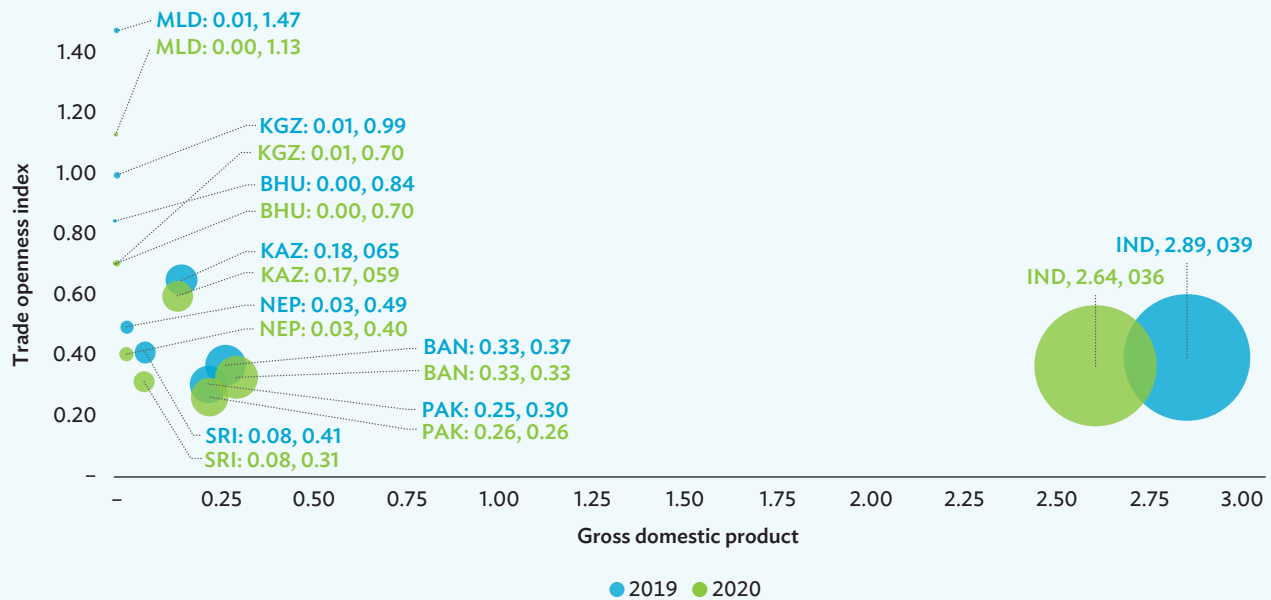
HKG = Hong Kong, China; JPN = Japan; KOR = Republic of Korea; MON = Mongolia; PRC = People's Republic of China; TAP = Taipei, China.
Note: The labels separated by semicolons are ordered as follows: economy abbreviation, gross domestic product in trillions of United States dollars, and trade openness index.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

The observed trend between GDP level and trade openness is most apparent in South and Central Asia, as shown in Figure 3.8. The subregion saw an overall decline in openness to trade 2020, with the effects of falling imports more pronounced than declining exports. All economies, except Maldives, exhibited low indexes for trade openness. With the third-lowest total trade and GDP levels in Asia and the Pacific in 2019, Maldives reported the greatest trade openness in South and Central Asia, being the only economy with an index above 1. In fact, even though its total exports and imports fell by close to 88% in 2020, Maldives remained the most trade-open economy in the subregion. Meanwhile, the Kyrgyz Republic faced the most severe contraction in trade openness among all economies, falling 29% from 2019 to 2020, while Sri Lanka experienced a 25% reduction.

Figure 3.8: Trade Openness of Select Economies in South and Central Asia



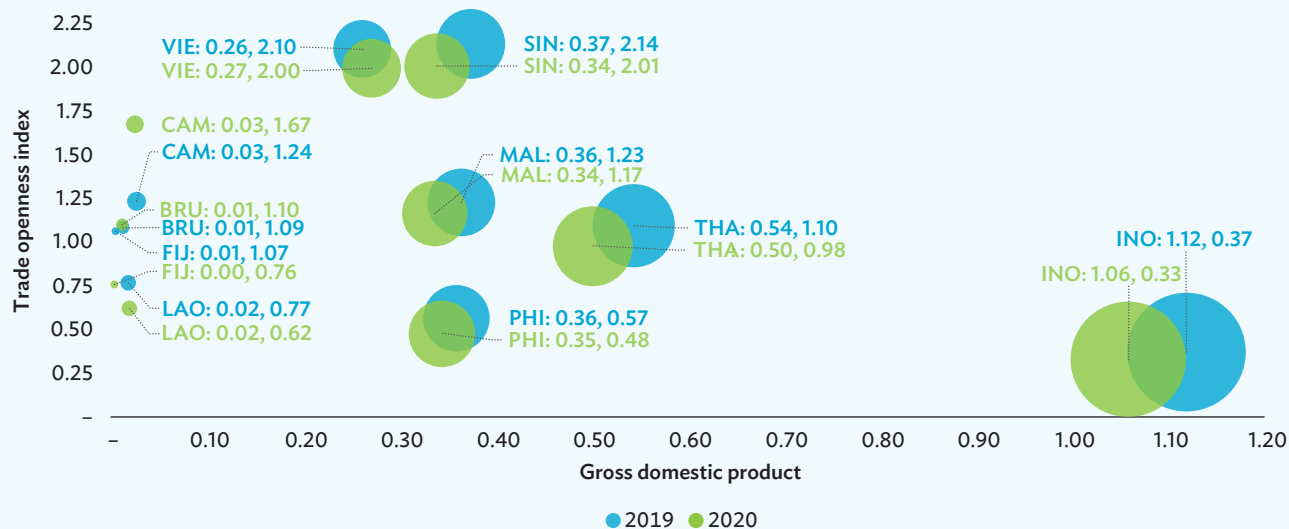
BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; IND = India; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; MLD = Maldives; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; SRI = Sri Lanka.

Note: The labels separated by semicolons are ordered as follows: economy abbreviation, gross domestic product in trillions of United States dollars, and trade openness index.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

The subregion of Southeast Asia and the Pacific presents unique perspectives on trade and GDP. Malaysia, Singapore, and Viet Nam—economies with sizable levels of GDP—maintained higher-than-average trade openness indexes in both 2019 and 2020 (Figure 3.9). In fact, after the PRC in East Asia, these three economies felt the smallest contraction in trade openness from 2019 to 2020. Contrary to Maldives in South and Central Asia, the Pacific island economy of Fiji did not post a similar level of trade openness in 2020. Due to a severe contraction in trade of 45%, the economy recorded the second sharpest decline in trade-to-GDP ratio after the Kyrgyz Republic. Nevertheless, Fiji still ranked in the 10 most-open economies in Asia and the Pacific. Finally, Brunei Darussalam and Cambodia were the only economies in the region to experience a rise in their respective trade openness indexes from 2019 to 2020.

Figure 3.9: Trade Openness of Select Economies in Southeast Asia and the Pacific

BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; INO = Indonesia; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; PHI = Philippines; SIN = Singapore; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: The labels separated by semicolons are ordered as follows: economy abbreviation, gross domestic product in trillions of United States dollars, and trade openness index.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

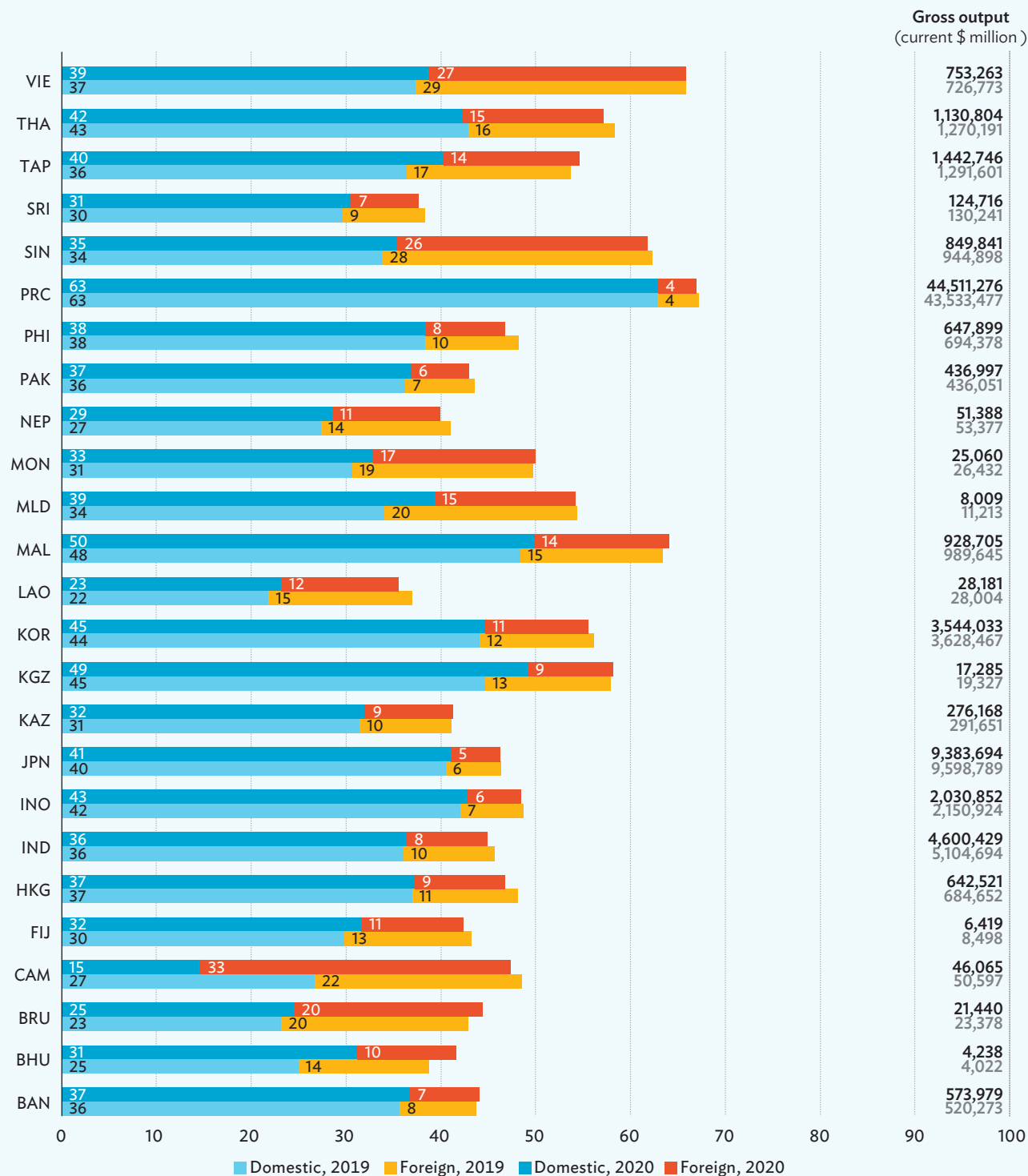
3.4 Domestic and Foreign Input Shares in Intermediate Inputs

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, economies were faced with restricted domestic production capabilities and resources. To fulfill domestic demand, several economies resorted to imports of final goods. Likewise, exporting economies experienced shortages of inputs on account of supply chain disruptions. As a result, the trade orientation of some economies appeared to change direction during the crisis.

Such observations arose from input-output tables that differentiate sources of inputs by the originating economy. Domestic input comprises all intersectoral (intermediate) inputs purchased from domestic sectors, while foreign inputs are purchased from abroad. **Domestic input shares** are obtained by taking the share of total domestic intermediate inputs to total output. By simply replacing the numerator with imported inputs, one obtains the **foreign input shares**, which are the same as import-to-input ratios.

Using these ratios, the multiregional input-output (MRIO) analysis shows that all economies, except Cambodia, experienced a rise in domestic input dependence in 2020. The pandemic was largely responsible for the shrinking of import activity. In fact, the regional average of foreign input share fell by 9.17% from 2019 to 2020, while the domestic input share grew by an average of 2.91%. Figure 3.10 details this by showing the domestic and foreign input shares in the total output of each economy in 2019 and 2020. The results

Figure 3.10: Domestic and Foreign Input Shares of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Note: Domestic inputs, intermediate imports, and output were aggregated to calculate economy-wide domestic and foreign input shares.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.org/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

are the opposite of those found when analyzing import orientation: the PRC reported the highest domestic input share of 63% in both years, followed by Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, and Kazakhstan, with domestic input shares close to 50%. Meanwhile, Cambodia reported one of the lowest domestic input shares in 2019 and the lowest in 2020 at 15%.

3.5 Import Leakage Effects

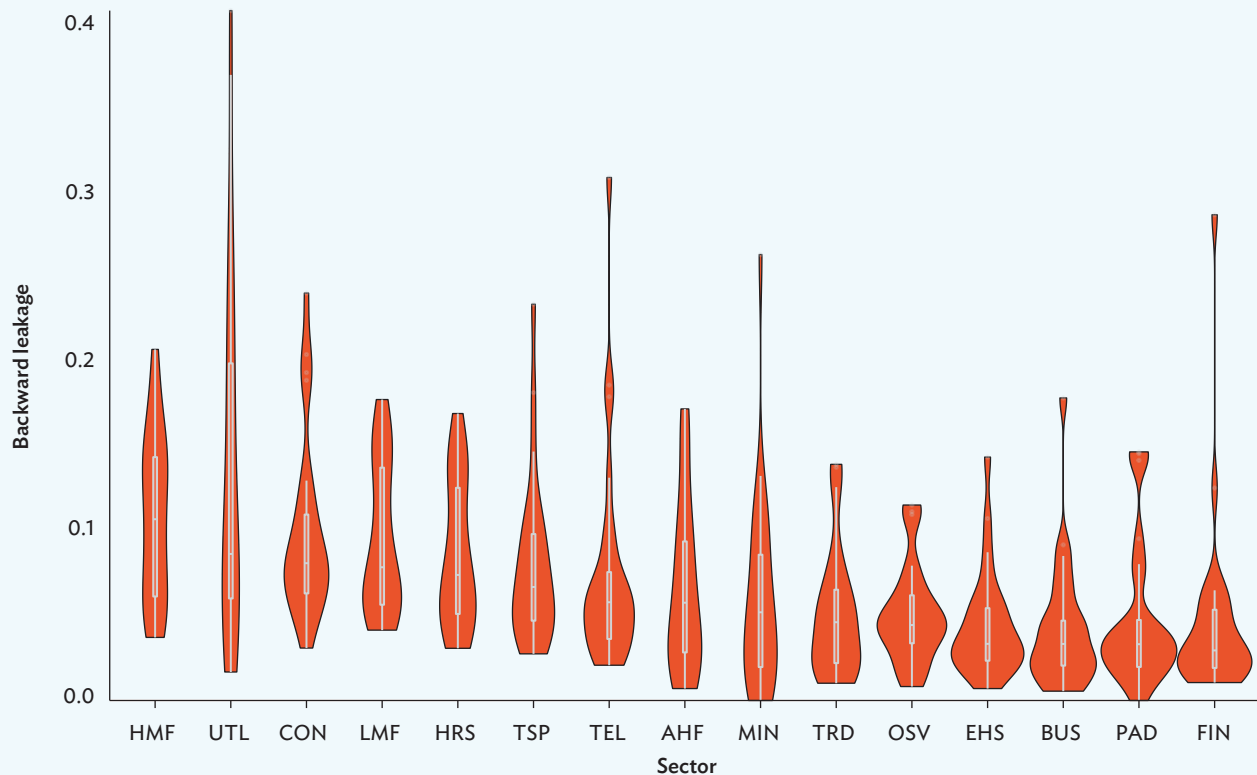
The shares of foreign inputs discussed in section 3.4 provide first insights into how an economy might be connected to globally integrated production. Many sectors may find importing inputs and resources more affordable than producing them locally. When these industries depend on foreign suppliers, the goods and services they produce at home are then associated with a certain level of production abroad. These dependencies, when modeled in an input–output framework, are called “leakages,” alluding to the amount of output that is foregone in domestic production.

Backward linkages indicate how much *domestic* output is generated due to a change in final demand in sector *i*. Meanwhile, forward linkages describe the total *domestic* output resulting from the available primary inputs in sector *j*. This analysis can be extended to capture the output effects in foreign economies (Reis and Rua 2006). **Import leakage effects**, or more formally **import multipliers**, suggest that the gains from production do not accrue entirely to the domestic economy because foreign-sourced inputs are used in production processes, thereby “leaking” into other economies. While leakage may imply a negative effect to the domestic economy, dependence on foreign inputs does not automatically impede an economy’s potential output. Recent studies illustrate how some economies can use imports to their advantage, primarily to increase competitiveness of domestic production (World Bank 2020). Analogous to intersectoral linkages, import leakages can also be split into backward and forward leakages.

The backward import multiplier (or backward leakage) indicates the total amount of production that accrues outside the economy due to an exogenous change in final demand of sector *i*. For instance, suppose an economy imports iron ore from a foreign mining sector to produce its own steel. If steel production changes due to changes in demand in, say, increased building construction, the foreign production of iron ore would also be affected through backward leakage effects. Thus, backward leakage identifies the most important sectors in the economy in terms of how those sectors can stimulate productive activities in nondomestic sectors. In other words, sectors that are more dependent on foreign sectors’ supply could be interpreted as having high backward leakage effects. Defining A^f as the matrix of imported input coefficients while A^d as the matrix of domestic input coefficients, the backward leakage matrix is expressed as $A^f(I - A^d)^{-1}$. The sum of the elements in the j^{th} column provides the total backward leakage or the value of all imports due to a one-unit increase in the final demand for sector *j*’s output (Dietzenbacher et al. 2005).

The distribution of backward import leakage effects of sectors in the Asia and Pacific region for 2020 are shown in Figure 3.11. Industrial sectors in the region, such as the manufacturing and utilities sectors, generally exhibited high backward leakage effects. Upstream sectors, such as agriculture and mining, were in the median range, given their low dependence on inputs from nondomestic sectors. Meanwhile, the public and private services sector remained at the low end of the distribution, alongside business and financial intermediation services. The utilities sector and financial intermediation services showed the widest range of backward leakage values among the 25 economies in the region. This indicates heterogeneity in production structures and sourcing patterns for their inputs. For example, input–output tables show that Viet Nam’s utility sectors have low dependence on foreign supply, while Singapore’s financial intermediation services rely on foreign sectors more than the other economies in the region.

Figure 3.11: Sectoral Distribution of Backward Leakages in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific, 2020



AHF = agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing; BUS = business services including real estate; CON = construction; EHS = education and health services; FIN = finance and insurance; HMF = heavy manufacturing; HRS = hotel and restaurant services; LMF = light manufacturing; MIN = mining and quarrying; OSV = other services; PAD = public administration; TEL = post and telecommunications; TRD = wholesale and retail trade; TSP = transport services; UTL = utilities.

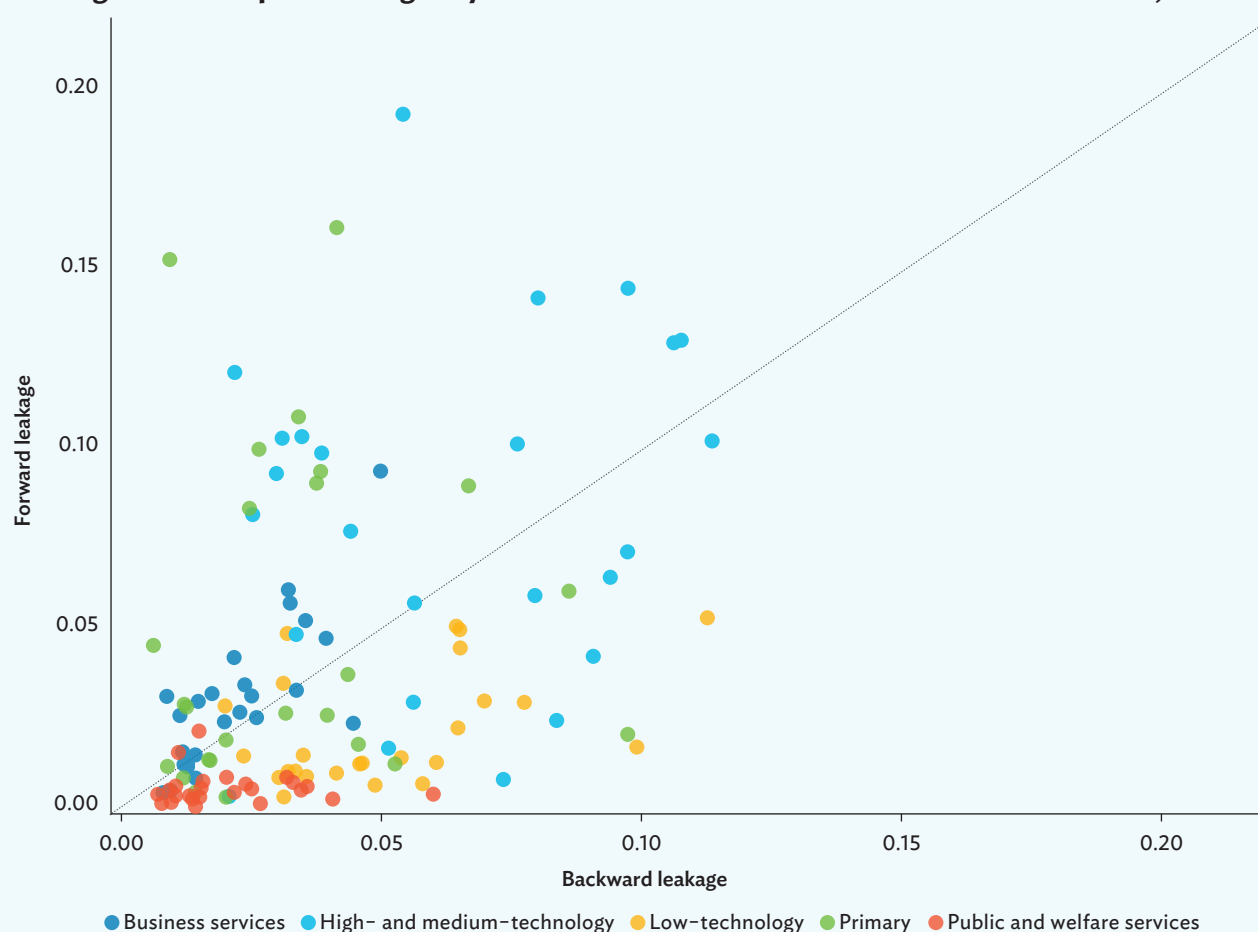
Note: The violin plot visualizes the numerical distribution of backward import multipliers, wherein wider sections of the violin plot represent higher probability that sampled economies will exhibit the given value in the vertical axis and vice versa.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Meanwhile, the **forward import multiplier** (or forward leakage) indicates the total amount of production that accrues outside the economy as a result of an exogenous change in the availability of primary inputs in domestic sector j . To take the same example as above, the economy that produces steel may export part of its output to a foreign construction sector, where it will be used to build houses. If the economy's steel output changes, the housing construction abroad would also be affected, resulting in forward leakage. Analysis of forward leakage identifies the most important sectors in the economy in terms of how those sectors can support productive activities in nondomestic sectors. Sectors that provide more inputs to foreign production exhibit high forward leakage effects. If O^f is the matrix of imported output coefficients and O^d is the matrix of domestic output coefficients, the forward leakage matrix can be expressed as $(I - O^d)^{-1} O^f$. The sum of the elements in the i^{th} row of the matrix provides the total forward leakage effect or the total nondomestic output resulting from a unit change in primary inputs in domestic sector i .

Figure 3.12 combines the two types of import leakage for aggregated sectors in the 25 participating economies of Asia and the Pacific. Sectors clustered above the 45-degree line, such as business services, have relatively higher forward leakages. That is, these sectors' primary inputs can generate more output abroad than demand for their own products. Conversely, sectors clustered below the 45-degree line, such as low-technology manufacturing and public and welfare services, have relatively higher backward leakages. This implies that final demands for low-technology and public and welfare services could potentially induce more production abroad (i.e., demand-pull), than the mere availability of their primary inputs or value-added and imports for absorption in downstream production (i.e., supply-push). For primary sectors (i.e., agriculture and mining), import leakages are generally dispersed as they are for high- and medium-technology sectors. The range of backward and forward leakage values in Figure 3.12 indicate the various positions that these sectors take in international production chains.

Figure 3.12: Import Leakages by Sectors of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020

Note: Results are aggregated at the five-sector level.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table for 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

3.6 Intraregional and Interregional Effects

The leakage effects show the direction of impacts from the supply (forward) and demand (backward) of the local economy to foreign counterparts. However, another perspective on international linkage is to determine the reverse: the impact of foreign demand to local production. This can be obtained by first recreating the multiregional input–output table, such that the intersectoral transactions of one region with another are explicitly shown. In the MRIO context, one “region” may be the economy under study, while the other region could represent transactions with the rest of the world.

Using this multiregional input–output table, the output of a sector may be decomposed into four components. First, a sector produces to satisfy final demands (called “direct intraregional” output). Second, it produces to supply domestic sectors with inputs required for their respective final goods and services (known as the

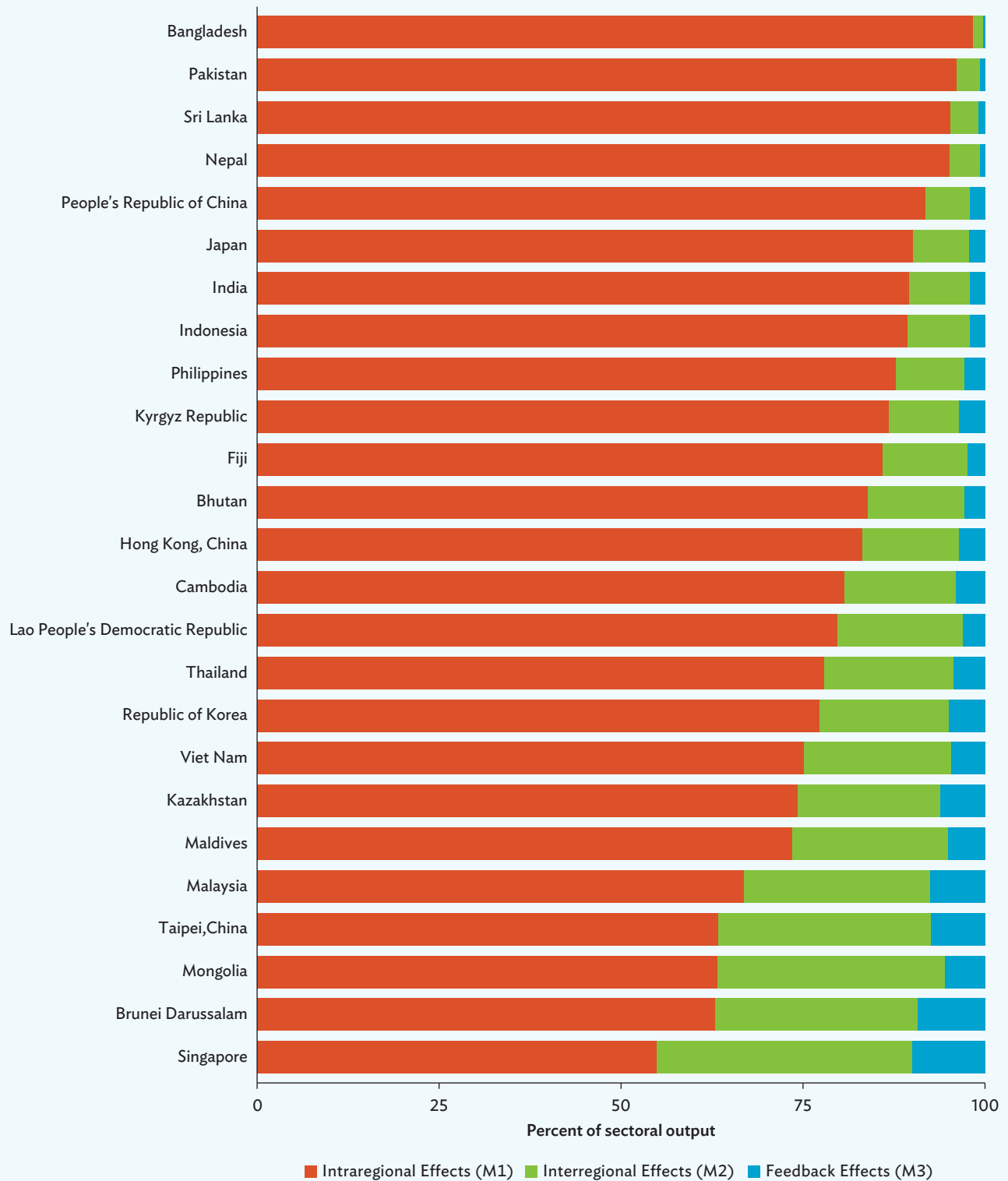
“intraregional transfer effect” or “M1”). Third, the sector may supply some inputs to foreign sectors in their own production of final goods and services (referred to as the “interregional spillover effect” or “M2”). Finally, the sector may supply inputs to foreign sectors that also provide inputs to the production of final goods and services within the receiving economy (termed the “interregional feedback effect” or “M3”). The first two terms offer insights on domestic linkages, while the last two describe links with international production chains. Further descriptions of these terms’ derivation are available in the technical notes.

To illustrate, consider a metal manufacturer in economy A. Some certain amount of the manufacturer’s output will be purchased by sectors inside the economy, such as local car manufacturers and construction firms. These outputs directly and indirectly purchased for domestic production of final goods represent a pure intraregional effect (M1). However, some metals may be purchased by an engine manufacturer in economy B for its own production of foreign cars. The production in A attributable to meeting final demand in B is considered the pure interregional spillover effect.

However, if economy A’s manufacture of cars also uses a specialized engine from economy B, which in turn happens to purchase its supply of metal parts from economy A, this results in production in economy A that loops to itself via economy B. The demand for metal parts in economy B’s engines, which are ultimately embodied in cars produced by economy A, represents an interregional feedback effect. This effect materializes when economies are involved in vertically integrated production processes.

Results of decomposition of intraregional and interregional effects for the 25 economies of Asia and the Pacific in 2020 are illustrated in Figure 3.13. Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan had larger shares of outputs that were mainly attributable to domestic linkages (M1) rather than external spillover effects (M2 and M3). Meanwhile, Brunei Darussalam, Mongolia, and Singapore posted sizable shares of interregional spillover (M2) and feedback (M3) effects in their gross outputs. Generally, economies that exhibited higher spillover effects tended to be more open to trade, specializing in the export of manufactured goods such as electrical equipment and energy-related products.

Figure 3.13: Intraregional and Interregional Effects of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020
(% of total output)



Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

3.7 Value-Added Trade Accounting

The decomposition of output described in section 3.6, while providing baseline insights on a sector's engagement in vertically integrated production chains, could be refined by using exports. The familiar measure of gross exports is a composite of several distinct types of trading. A large part of the gross figure consists of direct trading—the classical form of trade that involves value-added crossing one border to be finally consumed. Increasingly, however, trade may be indirect. Taipei, China might receive semiconductor blueprints from Japan, manufacturing them for use in electronics produced in the Republic of Korea, which are then sent to Viet Nam for assembly into appliances that are sold in Singapore's shopping malls. While only adjacent economies along this chain have a direct trading relationship, all participants have an indirect relationship with one another.

The rise of cross-border production-sharing arrangements known as global value chains (GVCs) has made it necessary to develop new indicators that take this phenomenon into account. Several such indicators are derived from a value-added trade accounting framework, which decomposes export flows into their basic value-added components. For example, an export of \$100 worth of electronics from Viet Nam to Germany will contain both Vietnamese value-added and value-added that Viet Nam imported from other economies as inputs. Moreover, only some of this \$100 will be consumed by Germany; a portion may be reexported and consumed elsewhere. Tracking these portions is the objective of the accounting framework.

As described in ADB's *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021* (ADB 2021), the framework adopted by the ADB GVC research—based primarily on Borin and Mancini (2019)—decomposes export flows from economy s to economy r into five mutually exclusive value-added categories:

- (i) Directly absorbed value-added exports (DAVAX). Value-added solely from economy s that is exported to and absorbed solely in economy r .
- (ii) Reexports (REX). Value-added solely from economy s that is exported to and reexported by economy r , to be absorbed abroad.
- (iii) Reflection (REF). Value-added solely from economy s that is exported to and reexported by economy r , to eventually be absorbed back home by economy s .
- (iv) Foreign value-added (FVA). Non- s value-added embedded in economy s exports to economy r .
- (v) Pure double-counting (PDC). Any value-added involved in economy s exports to economy r that cross the same border twice or more.

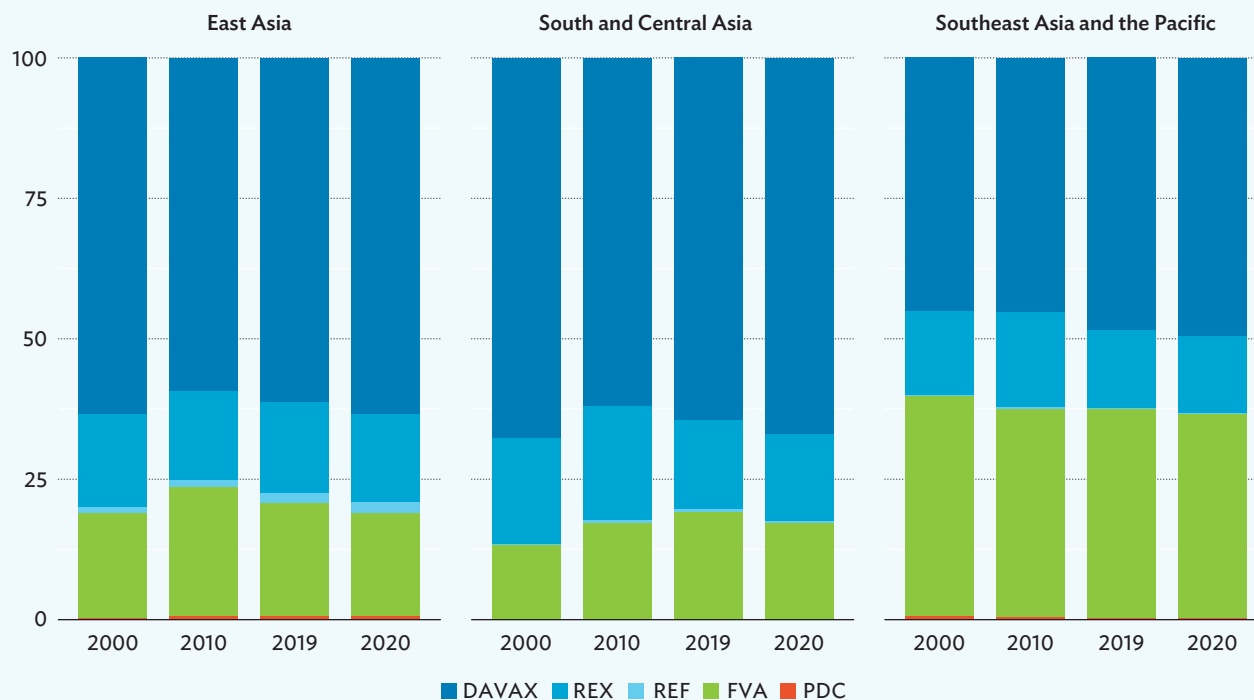
First on the list is directly absorbed value-added exports (DAVAX), synonymous with direct trading. The other four categories involve indirect trading, defined more precisely as cases where value-added crosses at least two borders before final consumption. This occurs when the direct importer reexports what it imports, passing it along the value chain to be eventually consumed abroad (REX) or back in the original exporter's economy (REF). Indirect trading also occurs when the exporter uses imported inputs, resulting in foreign value-added (FVA) in its exports. Finally, when the same value-added crosses the same border twice or more, it duplicates its own measurement, resulting in pure double-counting (PDC). This component is not actually a value-added category; rather, it accounts for instances where the same value-added is counted more than once. This would be the case if, for example, Vietnamese value-added is exported to Germany, reexported back to Viet Nam, then exported to Germany again. This type of back-and-forth flow represents a particularly intense form of integration.

The five categories of value-added may be decomposed into finer subcategories. One may split FVA, for example, into the portion that is absorbed by economy *r* and the portion that is reexported. The five listed, however, will suffice for most analyses.

There is no definitive way to bring the accounting framework down to the sectoral level. An intuitive approach would be to divide national values by the sector that exports (or “export-sectors”), but an equally reasonable alternative would be to divide national values by the sector where value-added originates (or “origin-sectors”). Other approaches are possible, but these two are generally the most useful.

Figure 3.14 presents the export makeup of the three subregions of East Asia, South and Central Asia, and Southeast Asia and the Pacific for 2000, 2010, 2019, and 2020. Southeast Asia and the Pacific registered the largest share of FVA in their exports: 36.3% in 2020 compared with 18.3% for East Asia and 17.0% for South and Central Asia. Only East Asia had a significant amount of exported value-added that eventually returned to its borders. In 2020, this was 1.9% of its exports.

Figure 3.14: Components of Gross Exports by Subregion of Asia and the Pacific
(% of exports)



DAVAX = directly absorbed value-added exports, FVA = foreign value-added, PDC = pure double-counting, REF = reflection, REX = reexports.
Notes: Value-added categories derived from the trade accounting framework described in ADB, 2021. *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Manila. East Asia is comprised of Hong Kong, China; Japan; Mongolia; the People's Republic of China; the Republic of Korea; and Taipei, China. Southeast Asia and the Pacific is comprised of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. South and Central Asia is comprised of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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Southeast Asia and the Pacific, however, consistently exhibited the highest shares of indirect trading from 2000 to 2020. This was driven by Malaysia, Singapore, and Viet Nam, which count among the most GVC-oriented economies not just in Asia but in the world. In particular, the subregion's niche in the midstream stages of manufacturing was reflected in the high proportion of FVA in its exports. This was exemplified by Viet Nam, where almost half of exports was FVA.

3.8 Global Value Chain Participation

One of the most useful indicators that can be derived from the value-added trade accounting framework is the GVC participation rate. This takes the value of GVC-related trade flows and divides it by some base, thereby measuring the extent to which an economy is participating in GVCs.

Two approaches are possible. Following the strand of literature started by Hummels, Ishii, and Yi (2001), the trade-based approach divides GVC-related flows by total exports. Specifically,

$$\text{Trade-based GVC participation rate} = \frac{\text{REX} + \text{REF} + \text{FVA} + \text{PDC}}{\text{Exports}}$$

In other words, all categories except DAVAX are considered GVC-related flows. This is because they all involve value-added crossing more than one border, a necessary condition for GVCs.

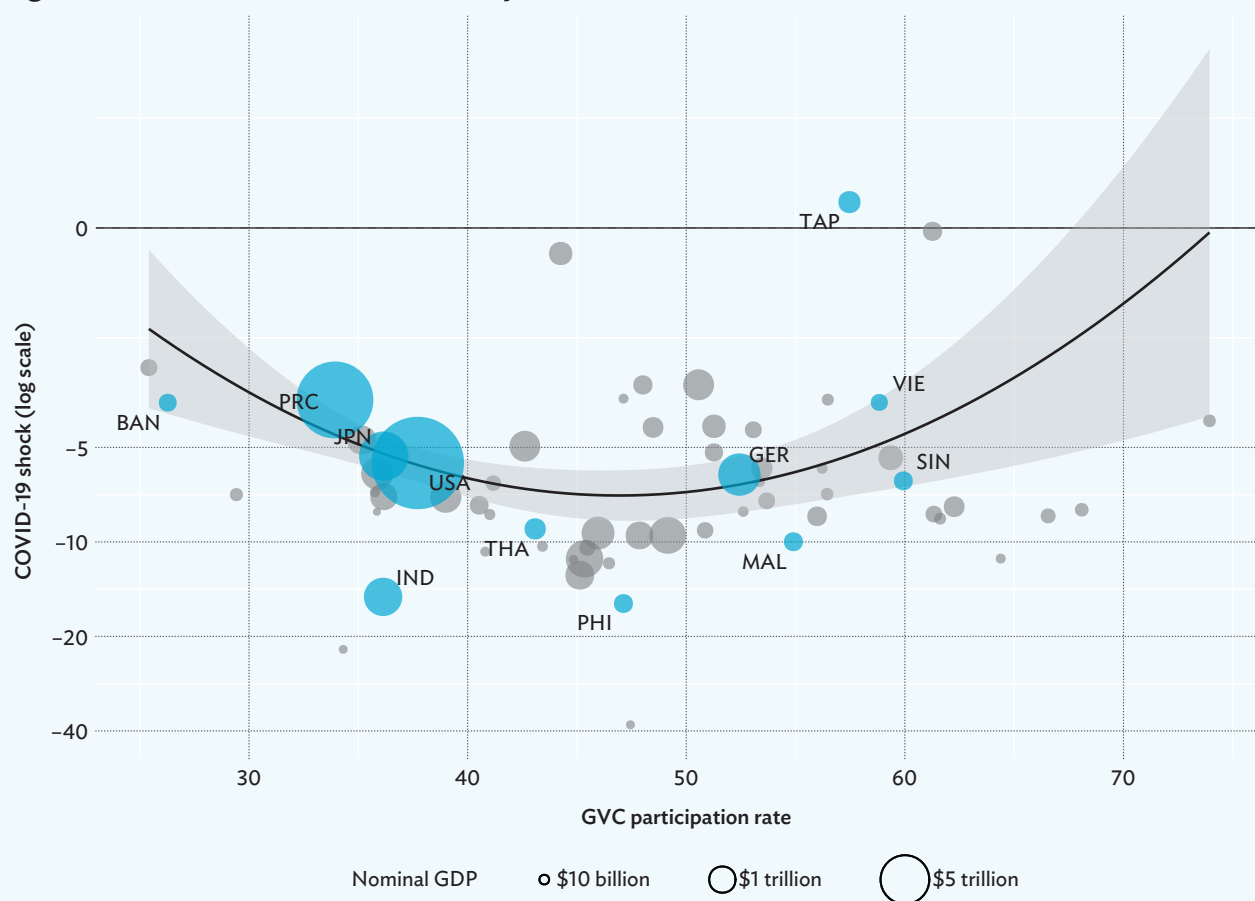
The second approach, following the work of Wang, Wei, Yu, and Zhu (2017a), is called the production-based approach. This is measured by dividing GVC-related production by GDP:

$$\text{Production-based GVC participation rate} = \frac{\text{DAVAX2} + \text{REX} + \text{REF}}{\text{GDP}}$$

where DAVAX2 is the portion of DAVAX that is directly absorbed through intermediate exports. The two approaches to the GVC participation rate generally behave in unison, though reporting one or the other may be preferable given the context.

Figure 3.15 demonstrates one use of the GVC participation rate. The dramatic and simultaneous closure of borders brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has raised questions about the role trade integration plays in regional and global economic security. On the one hand, trade openness provides access to other markets, mitigating the impact of domestic shocks. On the other hand, such openness exposes economies to shocks from abroad. Which effect dominates will depend on the circumstances prevailing in any given economy. This is confirmed in Figure 3.15, which compares the GVC participation rates of economies in the multiregional input-output table against the size of the pandemic-induced shock to growth these economies experienced in 2020. The U-shaped relationship suggests that GVC participation has a nonlinear correlation with shocks, wherein larger negative shocks are observed in the middle ranges (about 45%), with lower negative shocks observed in the lower and upper ranges of GVC participation. After this point, participation rates become associated with smaller negative shocks. Whereas Pakistan, whose GVC participation rate was 25.4%, performed about 2.8 percentage points lower than its pre-pandemic forecast, India's economy, whose GVC participation was 10 percentage points higher than Pakistan, contracted by about -8%. This is down by around 15 percentage points of India's pre-pandemic forecast of about 7.0% growth. Contrast this to economies with the highest GVC participation rates, namely Singapore and Viet Nam, whose economies experienced less severe contractions at -3.6 and -6.4 percentage points, respectively, below forecast.

Figure 3.15: Global Value Chain Participation Rate and the COVID-19 Shock to Economic Growth



\$ = United States dollars; AUS = Australia; BAN = Bangladesh; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; COVID-19 = coronavirus disease 2019; FIJ = Fiji; GDP = gross domestic product; GVC = global value chain; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: Participation rates are trade-based rates calculated using the methodology in Asian Development Bank. 2021. *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Manila. The COVID-19 shock is the percentage-point difference between forecasted GDP growth for 2020 and actual growth in 2020. Participation rates and nominal GDP are as of 2019. Point sizes reflect nominal GDP. A quadratic curve is fitted to reveal the estimated relationship, with the shaded band representing the 95% confidence interval.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021); forecasted growth rates from the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (October 2019); and actual growth rates from the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (April 2021).

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It must be noted that the estimated relationship was affected by a confluence of factors. First, impacts were dependent on the type of goods and services that an economy exports. For example, economies trading in services through modes 2 (consumption abroad) and 4 (presence of natural persons) of the General Agreement on Trade in Services were more acutely affected as mobility restrictions took place. The tourism-dependent economies of Fiji and Maldives are two salient examples. Meanwhile, economies engaged in information and communication technology (ICT) goods experienced lower contractions due to increased global demand for these products, as clearly seen in the case of Viet Nam and Taipei, China.

Second, impacts were also dependent on the economy-specific pandemic response. For example, coronavirus resource center data from the Center of Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University show that Brunei Darussalam and Taipei, China managed to keep the number of COVID-19 cases low in 2020, whereas India and the Philippines were among the economies with the highest recorded cases in Asia and the Pacific (CSSE 2021). The variance in the economic performance of these two groups are also evident in Figure 3.15. While other factors cannot be ruled out completely, findings on the GVC participation rates, coupled with economy-specific trade structures and pandemic responses, are indicative of the risk exposure of these economies from the pandemic. Taipei, China is a notable example. The economy's participation rates were among the highest, but it still outperformed other economies amid the pandemic due to its position in GVCs as a supplier of ICT goods and its unique data-driven approach to pandemic management (Chiang 2022). More in-depth discussion of this result can be found in ADB's *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021* (ADB 2021).

The **trade-based GVC participation rate** of an economy can be divided into forward and backward rates as follows:

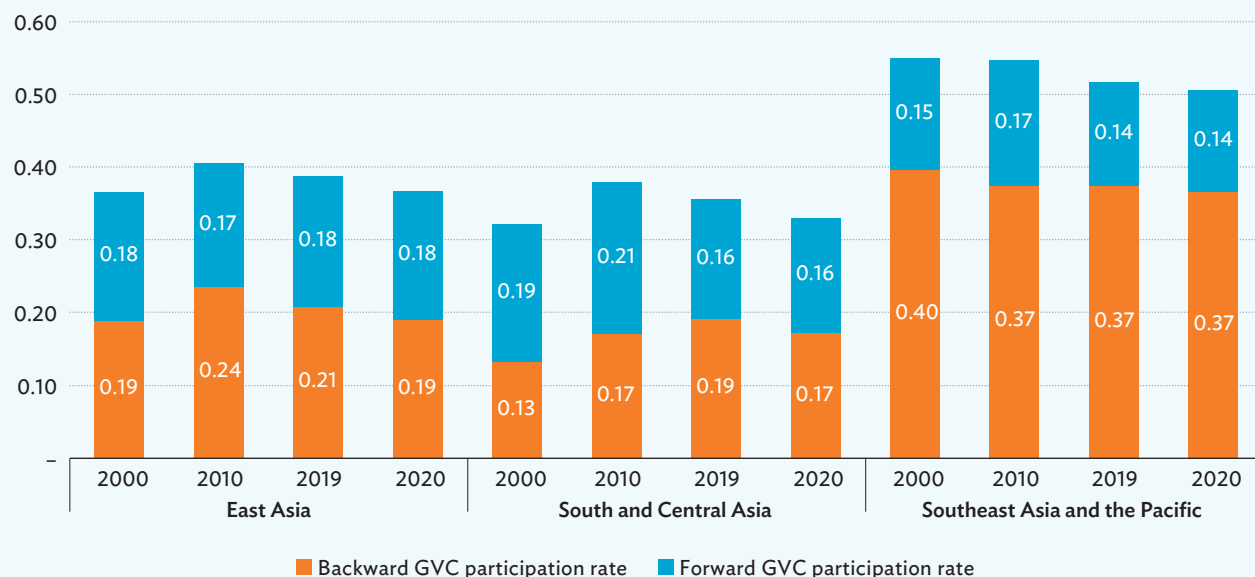
$$\text{Trade-based GVC participation rate, forward} = \frac{\text{REX} + \text{REF}}{\text{Exports}}$$

$$\text{Trade-based GVC participation rate, backward} = \frac{\text{FVA} + \text{PDC}}{\text{Exports}}$$

The share in total exports of domestic value-added (DVA) that is reexported by another importing economy to another foreign economy (REX) or back to the exporting economy (REF) makes up the economy's forward GVC participation rate, or forward supply linkage. For example, Maldives' exports of canned tuna packaged and labeled by Japan and sent to Singapore (REX) or back to Maldives (REF) is forward GVC activity from the perspective of Maldives. The share of Maldives' REX and REF to its total exports represents the economy's trade-based forward GVC participation.

Conversely, exports that embody value-added previously imported from abroad (FVA) and double-counted value-added (PDC) comprise the trade-based backward GVC participation rate. Within Maldives' exports of canned tuna to Japan, its import content in the form of aluminum from India represents the share of trade-based backward GVC activity.

An economy's total trade-based GVC participation combines both trade-based forward and backward participation rates. Figure 3.16 shows the forward and backward GVC participation rates of each subregion in 2000, 2010, 2019, and 2020. Since the GVC participation rates are aggregations of the export decomposition terms, the bars mimic the trends of REX and REF for forward GVC participation rates, and those of FVA and PDC for backward GVC participation rates.

Figure 3.16: Forward and Backward Global Value Chain Participation Rates, by Subregion

GVC = global value chain.

Note: East Asia is comprised of Hong Kong, China; Japan; Mongolia; the People's Republic of China; the Republic of Korea; and Taipei, China. Southeast Asia and the Pacific is comprised of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. South and Central Asia is comprised of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

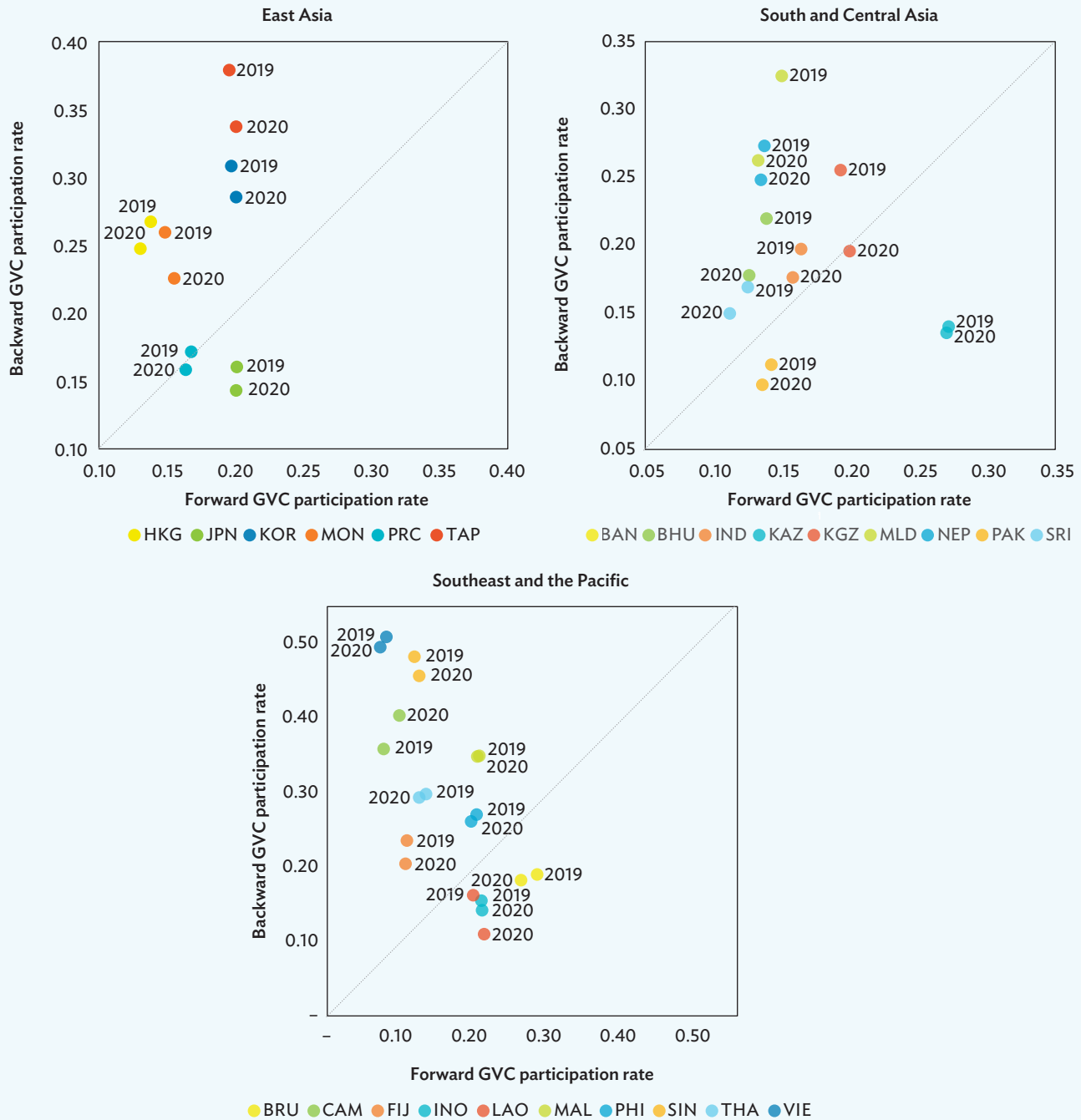
[Click here for figure data](#)

In East Asia and South and Central Asia, forward and backward GVC participation rates show synergy, signifying that the domestic and foreign value-added embedded in indirect trading were around the same size. Conversely, in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, a substantial portion of GVC-related trading was attributed to backward GVC linkages. Among the subregion's economies, the Philippines and Singapore took the lead in including FVA.

Figure 3.17 reveals that most economies in 2019 and 2020 embodied more FVA in exports over DVA. It also depicts the waning reliance on FVA from 2019 to 2020. In efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19, economies closed borders, imposed lockdowns, and restricted import activity, thereby hampering markets and GVC activities. This led to declines in both backward and forward GVC engagement: backward GVC participation fell in all economies in Asia and the Pacific, except in Cambodia and Malaysia, and forward GVC activity also slowed.

Looking at the East Asia section of Figure 3.17, Japan exhibited a more forward orientation in GVC activity in 2019 and 2020, despite its East Asian neighbors reexporting the most value-added in the entire Asia and Pacific region. Additionally, economies in the subregion, with the exception of Mongolia, embodied some of the highest levels of FVA in electricals and chemicals. In the South and Central Asian subregion, Kazakhstan and Pakistan exported more DVA intermediates than foreign intermediates. Kazakhstan had considerable forward GVC participation rates in its primary and medium-to-high-technology manufacturing sectors, while Pakistan led in forward participation in business service value-added exports.

Figure 3.17: Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates, by Subregion and Economy



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; GVC = global value chain; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei,China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Meanwhile, Maldives had the highest backward GVC participation rates in the primary and low-technology manufacturing sectors, while Nepal exhibited the greatest ratio of FVA in exports of medium-to-high-technology manufacturing, business services, and personal and public services. In Southeast Asia and the Pacific, the most forward leaning economies were Brunei Darussalam, the Lao PDR, and Indonesia. The GVC participation rates among economies is most diverse in this subregion.

Figures 3.18 to 3.22 rank all trade-based forward and backward GVC participation rates for different sector groupings. By illustrating the gap between each economy-sector's backward participation rate and forward participation rate for 2019 and 2020, the figures provide information on whether an economy-sector grouping is leaning toward a particular role in a value chain, or is balancing its use of domestic value-added and foreign value-added as it exports. The slope of each line connecting the participation rates of each economy also reveals changes in value-added composition or sourcing priorities over the course of two years.

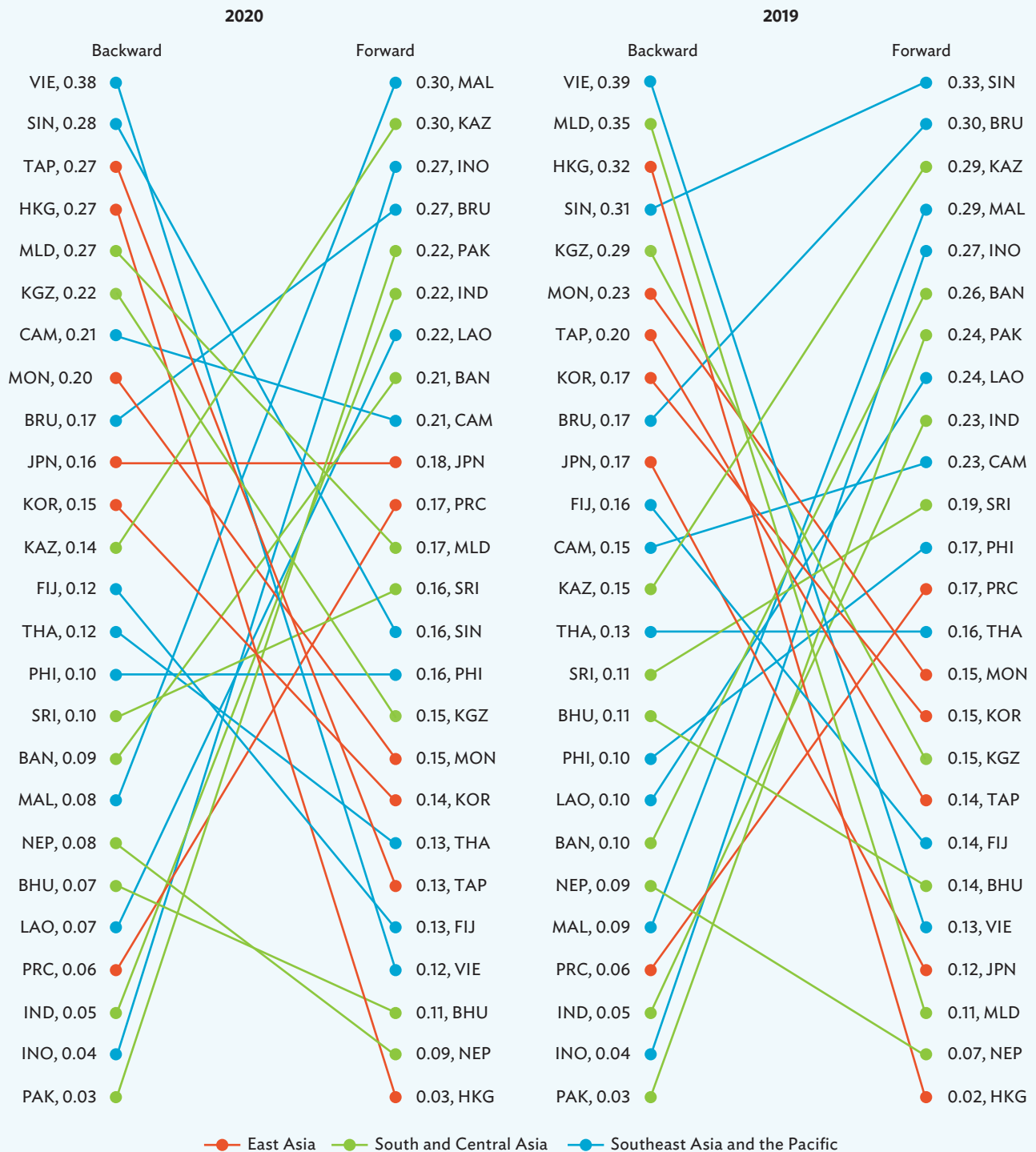
Figure 3.18 presents the participation rates of the primary sector. As observed, Viet Nam's exports embodied the highest FVA content (0.38) among all economies in 2020, paired with one of the smallest reflected and reexported levels of DVA (0.12). Viet Nam also reported the least change in forward and backward GVC participation rates from 2019 to 2020. Further, economies in Southeast Asia and South and Central Asia dominated the export of agricultural DVA intermediates. Throughout 2019 and 2020, Kazakhstan's primary sector continued to have the highest forward GVC participation in its subregion. The economy recorded the highest forward GVC participation rate in all sampled economies for mining.

Within the low-technology manufacturing sector, Cambodia exported the highest foreign (0.56) and lowest domestic (0.01) value-added content in 2020 (Figure 3.19). The growth in its backward GVC participation from 2019 to 2020 can be attributed largely to increased imports in textiles, which are also its top export. Conversely, Pakistan continued to rely least on foreign intermediate inputs (0.09) in 2020, largely on account of its domestic backward linkages in food and beverages, textiles, leather, and wood manufacturing. Pakistan's trade-based forward GVC participation (0.22) was among the highest in South and Central Asia as it was driven significantly by the economy's leather and paper intermediate reexports to third economies (ADB 2022).² Bhutan maintained its leadership in forward GVC participation (0.21) within the subregion, driven by the export of utilities.

Despite declining exports and domestic production, Japan maintained its share of reexported and reflected intermediates (0.24), overtaking the Lao PDR (0.22) in 2020. Reexported textiles, rubber, and plastic goods made up the majority of Japan's forward supply linkage.

² Pakistan's backward linkage measure of trade-based GVC participation rate was much lower than its forward linkage counterpart. This observation implies that Pakistan occupied more upstream stages of GVCs. That is, the economy's inputs were used by other economies to a greater extent than other economies' inputs were used by Pakistan (see the ADB publication *Pakistan's Economy and Trade in the Age of Global Value Chains* for more in-depth discussion).

Figure 3.18: Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Primary Sectors



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Note: The primary sector comprises the agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing, and mining and quarrying sectors.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Figure 3.19: Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Low-Technology Manufacturing Sectors



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Note: The low-technology manufacturing sector comprises the manufacturing of food and beverages, textiles, leather, wood, paper, rubber and plastics, and products not elsewhere classified as well as the utilities and construction sectors.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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In medium-to-high-technology manufacturing, Viet Nam exhibited the highest backward GVC participation rates (0.61 and 0.60) for 2019 and 2020 (Figure 3.20). In fact, since 2016, FVA content in exports of metals, electricals, and machinery not elsewhere classified remained greater than 60%. Due to its weak domestic backward linkages in these sectors, Viet Nam relies heavily on foreign metals, machines, and electrical components and then adds its own value-added via subassemblies for exports. Research and development and product design are also mostly performed abroad or by foreign companies based in Viet Nam. Electrical goods were Viet Nam's top export in both 2019 and 2020.

The largest drop in backward GVC participation across all economy-sectors was felt in the refined fuels manufacturing sector of the Philippines, which fell 0.25 percentage points from 2019 to 2020. This may be largely attributed to decreased consumption for electricity by commercial enterprises and manufacturers during the COVID-19 crisis. While a net fossil fuel importer, refined fuels manufacturing was one of the Philippines' weakest importers within the medium-to-high-technology manufacturing sector group. Suppressed by a 0.15-percentage-point rise in chemicals manufacturing, total decline in backward GVC participation for the sector group reached only 0.02 points.

Interestingly, Mongolia exhibited evenness in its backward (0.33) and forward (0.35) GVC participation rates in 2020. Among all economy-sectors, Mongolia's value-added exports of electricals drew the highest foreign intermediate content, at 86% in both 2019 and 2020. The economy's exports of metals to third economies embodied 37% of DVA, the third highest in Asia and the Pacific.

In exporting business services, Mongolia, Singapore, and Viet Nam depended significantly on FVA in 2019 and 2020 (Figure 3.21). Conversely, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, and the PRC led the way for DVA. Pakistan's wholesale trade sector was pulled down by 0.28 points in terms of forward value-added contribution, the largest decline in any economy-sector forward GVC participation rate. Influential to this decline was the slowdown in import demand from Pakistan's top three export markets: the PRC, the United States, and the United Kingdom.

Brunei Darussalam and Singapore led in exporting a significant share of FVA in business services in 2019 and 2020. Brunei Darussalam experienced a 4% rise in backward GVC participation in 2020, driven by increased participation in the sale of motor vehicles, wholesale trade, retail trade, hotel and restaurant services, water transport, air transport, other transport support services, and financial services. Conversely, the PRC and the Philippines remained the highest-ranked in forward GVC participation, with water transport and other transport support activities classified as their top export services. Indonesia ranked third on this measure in 2020, driven by sizable reexported DVA in the same sectors. The economy boasted a forward GVC participation rate of 0.43 in water transport services and 0.46 in transport services not elsewhere classified in 2020. It is worth noting though that, in 2020,

Figure 3.20: Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Medium-to-High-Technology Manufacturing Sectors



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Note: The medium-to-high-technology manufacturing sector comprises the manufacturing of refined fuel, chemicals, minerals not elsewhere classified, metals, machinery not elsewhere classified, electricals, and transport equipment.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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Figure 3.21: Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Business Services



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Note: The business services sector comprises the sale of motor vehicles; wholesale and retail trade; hotels and restaurants; inland, water, and air transport; transport activities not elsewhere classified; telecommunications; finance; real estate; and business activities not elsewhere classified.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Indonesia suffered a massive decline in REX, REF, and exports. Overall, the sectors of water transport and other transport support activities were generally the most affected in Asia and the Pacific, primarily due to travel restrictions.

Signifying weak activity in exporting transportation services and maintenance thereof, Cambodia has been recording minimal forward GVC participation rates in the sale of motor vehicles and all transport sectors, except inland transport services, since 2000. Hong Kong, China and the PRC also participate minimally in indirect exports of motor vehicle sales, repair, and maintenance services.

As compared to the other sector groupings, the personal and public services sector features the smallest backward GVC participation rates (Figure 3.22). In fact, public administration, education, health and social work, personal services, and services of private households were among the lowest-ranked sectors. This is expected since these services are not commonly imported into other economies.

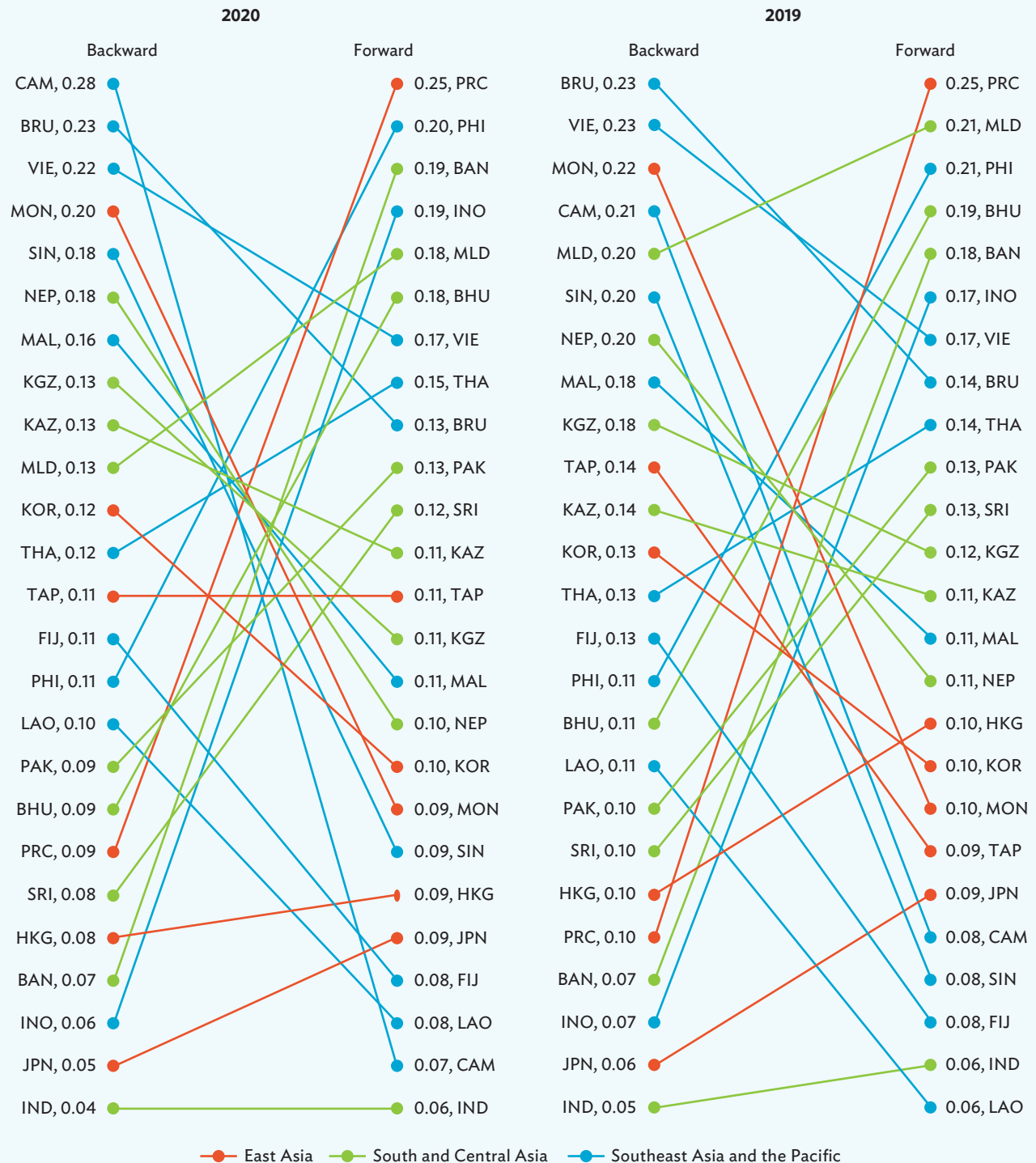
In terms of forward GVC participation, however, the PRC led in 2019 and 2020, posting 0.25 in both years. The economy was significantly influenced by its forward GVC share in public administration (0.37) and education services (0.28) in 2020. Bhutan's personal service sector had the highest forward GVC participation rate (0.37) among all economy-sectors in this grouping for 2020, overtaking the PRC's public administration sector previously at 0.40.

3.9 Product Specialization

Aside from relative prices, another way to assess an economy's standing in global production is through its revealed comparative advantage (RCA). Comparative advantage is used to explain prevailing patterns of trade: the theory being that economies export goods and services for which they have a comparative advantage and import the rest. Say there are two economies (A and B) and two types of goods (cars and shirts). If A's proficiency in making cars relative to shirts is better than B's proficiency in making cars relative to shirts, then A will export cars to B and B will export shirts to A. Note that B might be absolutely better than A at making both cars and shirts, however, the underlying criterion is B's comparative proficiency between the two types of goods.

Balassa (1965) operationalized this concept through the revealed comparative advantage index. This index is obtained by taking the share of sector i in a given economy's exports and comparing it with the average share of sector i across all economies' exports. If the index is greater than 1, then the economy's export makeup "reveals" it to have a comparative advantage in sector i . If the index is less than 1, it reveals the absence of a comparative advantage in that sector. The traditional use of revealed comparative advantage (TRCA) uses the value of gross exports as the main variable. In this context,

Figure 3.22: Backward versus Forward Global Value Chain Participation Rates in Personal and Public Services



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam

Note: The personal and public services sector comprises public administration, education, health and social work, personal services not elsewhere classified, and services of private households.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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the use of gross exports to characterize an economy's trade activity may be less than ideal, given the double-counting of value-added arising from multiple border crossings that are characteristic of international production-sharing arrangements.

As discussed in ADB's *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021* (ADB 2021), the RCA index may be adjusted to account for global value chains by using value-added exports, as calculated from the value-added trade accounting framework. The new revealed comparative advantage (NRCA) index refines TRCA by incorporating the rise of GVCs and considering cross-border production-sharing arrangements. Using the Wang, Wei, and Zhu (2013) decomposition formula, gross exports can be adjusted to arrive at forward-linkage-based DVA in gross exports. This removes FVA and PDC from the economy's exports, resulting in an RCA index that is based on DVA flows that are absorbed abroad.

Figure 3.23 demonstrates the difference between calculating RCA indexes using TRCA and NRCA, using the case of Malaysia for 2020. There is some stability among the sectors where the index is relatively high (refined fuels, electricals) and low (leather, transport equipment), but drastic reordering can also be seen. For example, Malaysia's retail trade services exports exhibited a comparative disadvantage under conventional trade statistics but a comparative advantage when adjusted for exports value-added, suggesting that domestic value-addition from this sector was embodied in the exports actually sent out by the economy. Such "hidden" portions of specialization are useful to uncover for a more comprehensive analysis on the positioning of firms, sectors, or economies within GVCs.

Figure 3.24 illustrates TRCA and NRCA indexes³ for four sectors that endured significant impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020: air transport; petroleum and fuel production; manufacture of electrical and optical equipment; and hotels and restaurants. These four sectors were selected simply due to the disproportionate impacts they likely experienced due to lockdowns and imposed mobility restrictions, leading to limited operations in small businesses, factories, air travel, and accommodation. Maldives, a major tourist destination, continued to have a high comparative advantage in the hotels and restaurants sector in 2020. The same can be seen for Brunei Darussalam, whose primary products were in the petroleum and fuel sector, and Taipei, China in the electrical and optical equipment sector. NRCA indexes were generally higher than TRCA indexes for the petroleum and fuel sector, indicating a high DVA content of petroleum exports for most economies in Asia and the Pacific. Meanwhile, mixed results are shown for the other three sectors in some economies in which either higher NRCA indexes or higher TRCA indexes are seen.

³ The cube root transforms indexes to smooth out the values with too high or too low indexes in some economies.

Figure 3.23: Revealed Comparative Advantage Indexes for Economic Sectors of Malaysia, 2020



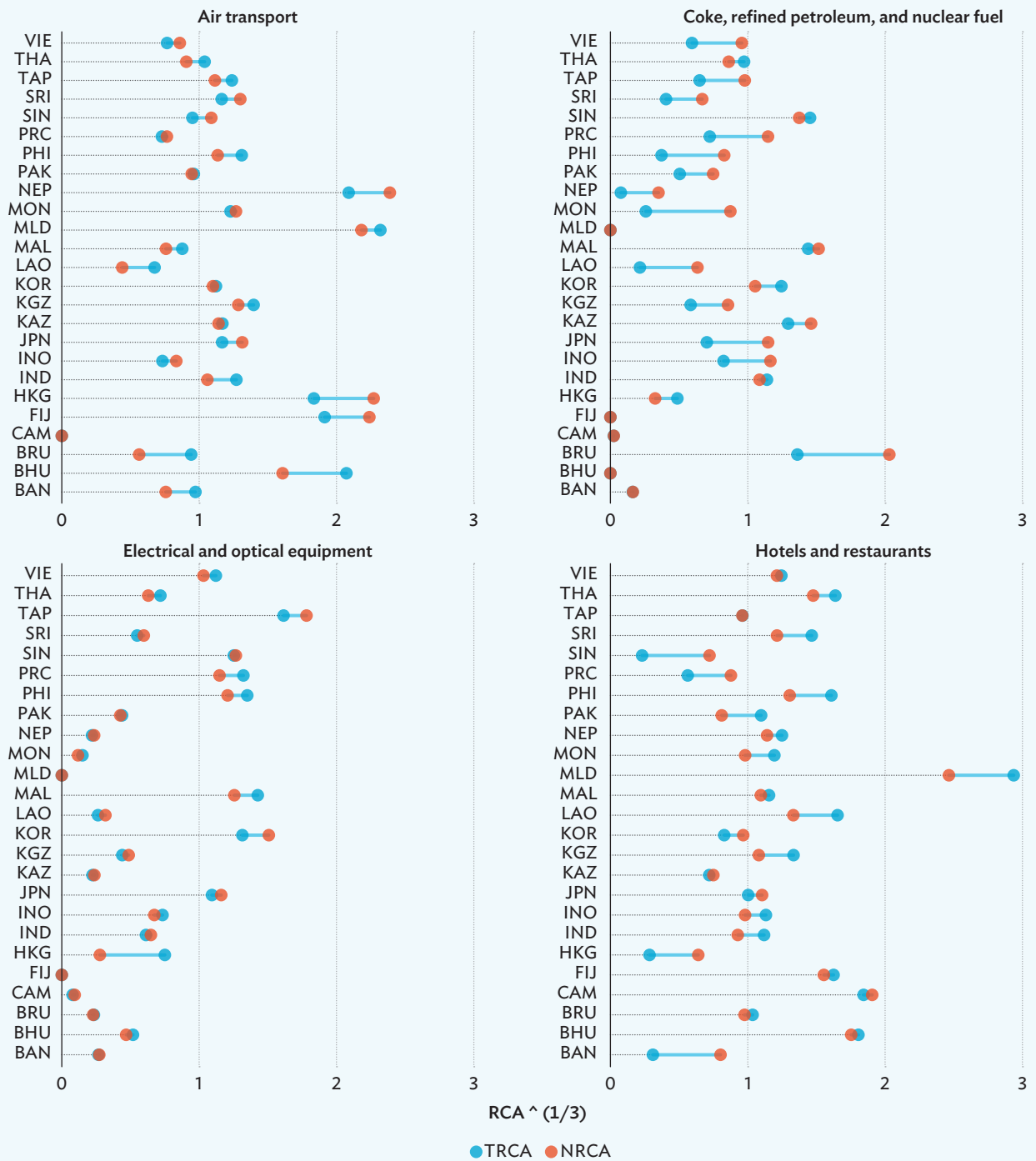
RCA = revealed comparative advantage.

Notes: RCA index calculated according to Balassa's *Trade Liberalisation and "Revealed" Comparative Advantage* (1965) and the Asian Development Bank's *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Sectors with RCA indexes of greater than 1 are sectors Malaysia is said to have a RCA over sectors colored in darker blue shade. Sectors with RCA of less than 1 are colored in green. Value-added exports are exports of domestic value-added that are absorbed abroad, disaggregated by origin sectors and calculated following *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Sectors with no value-added exports are omitted.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021); Asian Development Bank. 2021. *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific*. Manila; and B. Balassa. 1965. *Trade Liberalisation and "Revealed" Comparative Advantage*. *The Manchester School*. 33 (2). pp. 99–123.

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Figure 3.24: Traditional and New Revealed Comparative Advantages in Select Sectors, 2020



BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; NRCA = new (domestic value-added based) revealed comparative advantage; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; RCA = revealed comparative advantage; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam; TRCA = traditional (gross exports-based) revealed comparative advantage.

Note: RCA indexes are presented as the cube root of their original values.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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3.10 Production Lengths

Another way to characterize trade participation is to measure production lengths. While production can take many forms, it is useful to conceive of it as a series of sequential stages where each stage adds value until a finished product results. In this context, one can define the position of economy-sectors in a GVC by simply looking at how a sector's output is absorbed in the economy through an input-output table.

A sector is considered to be upstream if its outputs go through multiple stages before being absorbed as final use in the economy. For example, the mining sector produces iron ore for making steel. Steel is then generally used as an input to build houses. Of all the sectors involved, the mining sector is relatively upstream compared to the steel or construction sectors. That is, by supplying a disproportionate amount of its output to other producing sectors, the mining sector has a longer "distance" before its output (iron ore) is absorbed by final users. From this example, **upstreamness** can be simply defined as the average distance of a sector's output to its final use.

Conversely, a sector is considered to be relatively downstream if its production process involves more intermediate inputs from other sectors, relative to its own value-added or primary factors of production (Fally 2012). This measure is referred to as **downstreamness**. In the example above, the construction sector is relatively positioned in the downstream segment, since it uses steel inputs that were previously mined as ores. The remoteness of housing construction from the mining of iron ore signifies the downstream position of the former and the upstreamness of the latter.

A simple way to measure upstreamness is to take the share of gross output of an economy-sector that is sold to final consumers. In this case, a sector with a low ratio between final use and total output is said to be relatively upstream. Similarly, the downstreamness index is given simply by the share of an economy-sector's value-added to the total outlays of a sector. A sector with a low value-added over gross output is considered relatively downstream.

Antràs and Chor (2013) suggested a more complex derivation of the (weighted) average position of an economy-sector's output in GVCs, based on the power series approximation of the Leontief equation. The sequence of terms is taken as a reflection of sector i 's different positions in the value chain from its final use. Larger values in this index are associated with relatively higher levels of upstreamness of the output originating from sector i in economy r . In a similar manner, downstreamness is described as an infinite sequence of terms that reflect the usage of a sector's value-added at different positions in the value chain. In this case, larger values are associated with relatively higher levels of downstreamness of sector i in economy r .

Upstreamness indexes of select economy-sectors for 2020 are presented in Figure 3.25. These figures are rounded to integers to highlight the index as a measure of the average number of discrete stages it takes for an output of sectors in rows to reach its final consumers. On average, the metals and mining sectors frequently appear as the most upstream. Hence, economies with sizable mining activities and metallurgy also tend to be in upstream stages of the value chain. Contrast this with sectors such as education and health. These sectors generally tend to be located downstream, as these are largely consumed by households and government.

The changes in the economy-level upstreamness indexes for 2000 and 2020 are shown in Figure 3.26. Economies such as the PRC and Taipei, China became more upstream across the 2 decades, meaning their outputs were relatively further from final demand. Meanwhile, economies such as Kazakhstan and Fiji experienced the highest reductions in the upstreamness index, reflecting a reduction in the number of stages before sector outputs were converted into final use.

Wang, Wei, Yu, and Zhu (2017b) refined Antràs and Chor (2013) by defining **average production lengths** (APLs) for both forward and backward perspectives.

The forward length counts the number of stages separating the sector's output from the final consumer. More technically, it measures total gross outputs induced by one unit of value-added at the sector level, which can also be considered as the footprint of each sector's value-added in other products. The more value-added that is counted in the outputs of other sectors in the economy, the longer the production chain and the more upstream the sector. Therefore, this measure is closely related to the upstreamness index defined by Fally (2012) and Antràs and Chor (2013).

Conversely, the backward length counts the number of stages separating a sector's output from primary inputs. It measures the total intermediate inputs embodied in a final product. The more inputs that are counted in the production of a sector's final product, the longer the production chain and the more downstream the sector. This measure is closely related to the downstreamness index defined by Antràs and Chor (2013).

Averaging the two lengths for all the firms in a sector or economy gives average production lengths. Adding both average forward and backward production lengths gives the total length of a particular value chain. Longer production lengths, involving more rounds of value-added contribution, are associated with more complex value chains (Escaith and Inomata 2013). Moreover, Wang, Wei, Yu, and Zhu (2017b) applied the decomposition of production in Wang, Wei, Yu, and Zhu (2017a) to isolate the GVC activity of the sector, defined according to the production-based approach. Thus, it complements the essentially binary approach of the GVC participation rate, which classifies each dollar of exports as either belonging to GVCs or not.

Figure 3.25: Upstreamness Index by Sector in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific, 2020

	PRC	MAL	KOR	TAP	MON	SIN	JPN	THA	VIE	KGZ	PHI	INO	LAO	BRU	HKG	KAZ	IND	BAN	MLD	BHU	SRI	FIJ	PAK	NEP	CAM
Metals	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	3
Mining	5	4	4	4	4	0	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	0	3	3	3	0	2	2	2	3	2	2
Chemicals	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	2	3	2	0	3	2	2	2	2	2
Paper	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	4	1	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	2
Water transport	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	0	0
Transport activities, nec	4	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	4	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	0
Finance	4	4	2	2	4	3	3	3	3	7	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	1
Rubber and plastics	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	0	3	2	2	2	2	2
Utilities	4	3	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Refined fuels	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	4	2	3	3	2	3	2	4	2	3	0	0	3	0	2	2	4
Business activities, nec	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2
Wood	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	3
Minerals, nec	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Agriculture	4	4	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	3
Wholesale trade	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	2
Air transport	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	0
Inland transport	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
Telecommunications	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2
Machinery, nec	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	0	1	2	2	1	2	3
Sale of motor vehicles	0	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	1	0	1	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	1	0
Manufacturing, nec	1	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	2
Electricals	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	2
Textiles	3	2	3	3	1	2	3	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	1
Retail trade	3	3	3	2	3	2	1	2	0	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	2
Hotels and restaurants	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2
Leather	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	2	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	1	2	2	1	0
Personal services, nec	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
Food and beverages	3	3	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
Real estate	2	3	2	1	2	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
Transport equipment	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Construction	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Public administration	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Education	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Health and social work	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Private households	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

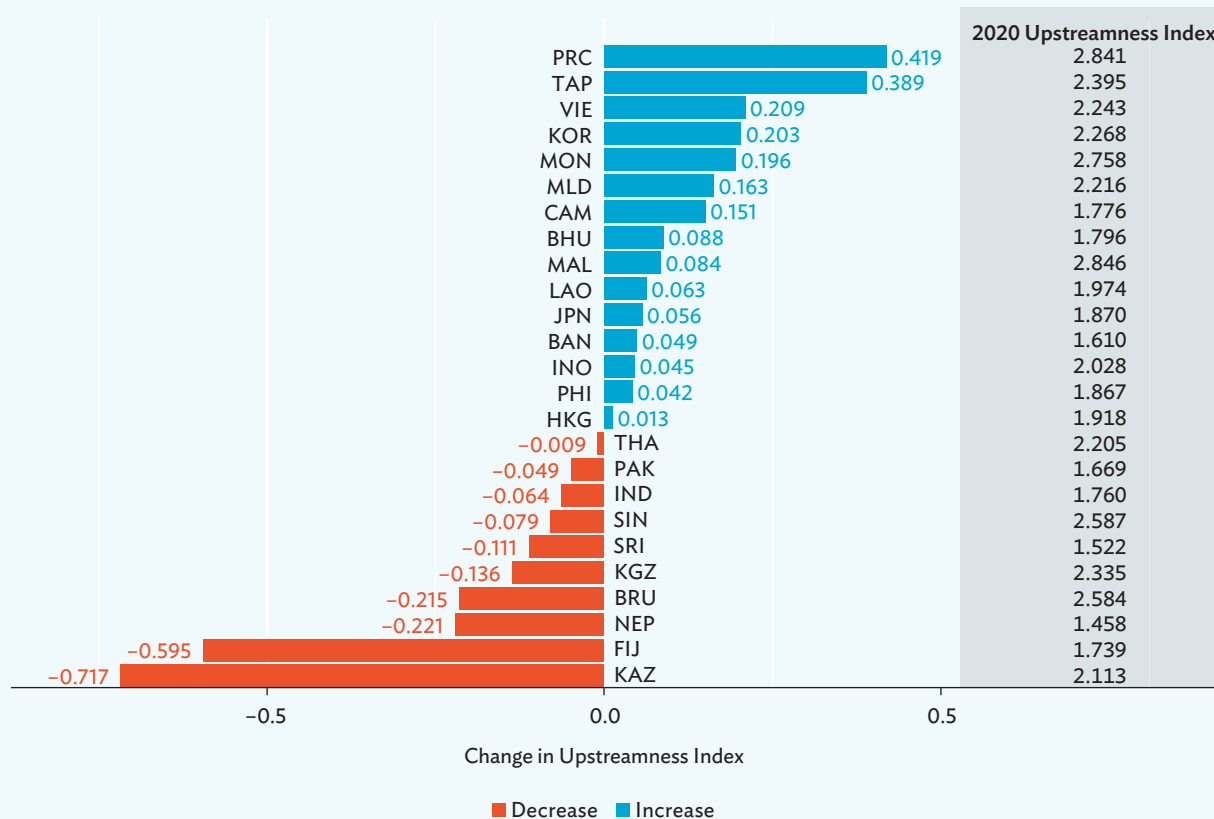
BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEC = Not elsewhere classified; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: The upstreamness index is measured using Antràs and Chor's *Organizing the Global Value Chain* (2013). Values are rounded to the nearest integer.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021); and P. Antràs and D. Chor. 2013. *Organizing the Global Value Chain*. *Econometrica*. 81 (6). pp. 2127-2204.

[Click here for figure data](#)

Figure 3.26: Changes in Upstreamness Indexes of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2000 and 2020



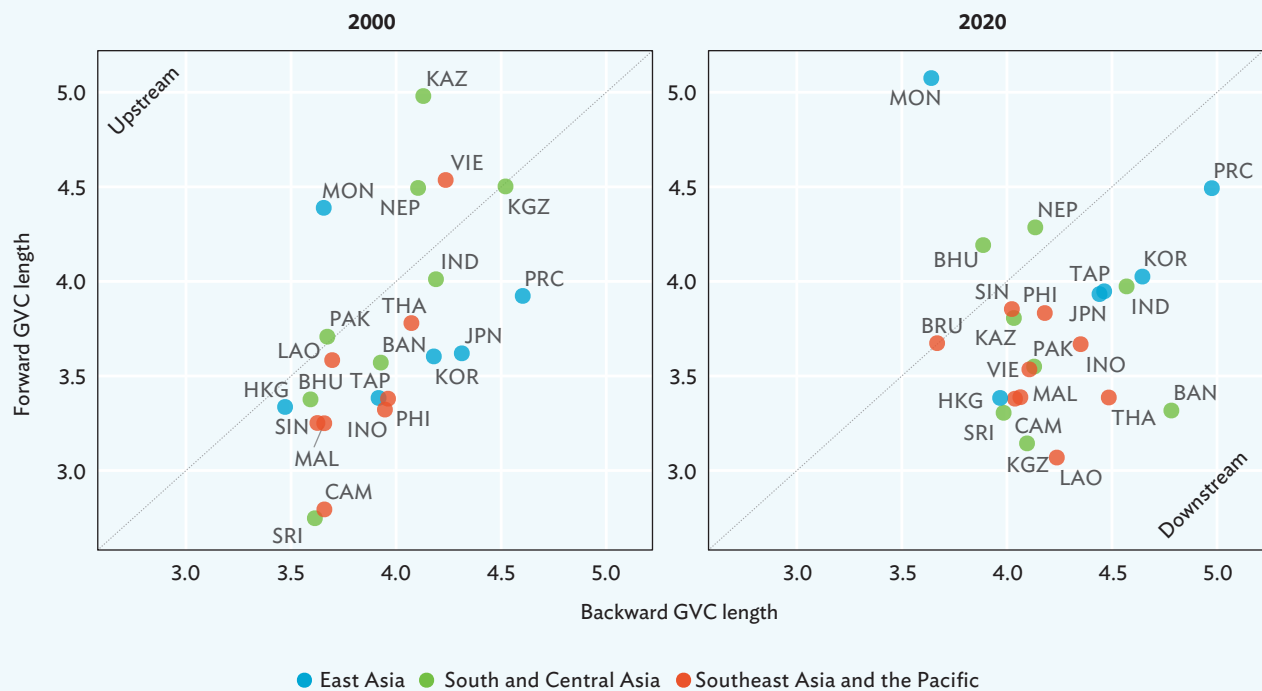
BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: The upstreamness index is measured using Antràs and Chor’s *Organizing the Global Value Chain* (2013). Sectors are aggregated by value-added origins.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021); and P. Antràs and D. Chor. 2013. *Organizing the Global Value Chain*. *Econometrica*. 81 (6). pp. 2127–2204.

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By comparing the forward and backward lengths of an economy, one can derive its relative position along the value chain. Those with longer forward lengths are more upstream, being closer to primary producers and further from final consumers. In the opposite case, sectors are more downstream. In Figure 3.27, the forward and backward GVC lengths of select economies are plotted for the electricals sector, a key sector in GVCs, for 2000 and 2020. The resource-abundant economy of Mongolia tended to be on the upstream end in both years. Reflecting its rapid development over the 2 decades, Viet Nam’s electrical and electronics sector shifted from upstream to downstream.

Figure 3.27: Positioning of Select Economies in the Global Value Chain for Electricals

BAN = Bangladesh, BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India, INO = Indonesia; GVC = global value chain, JPN = Japan, KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

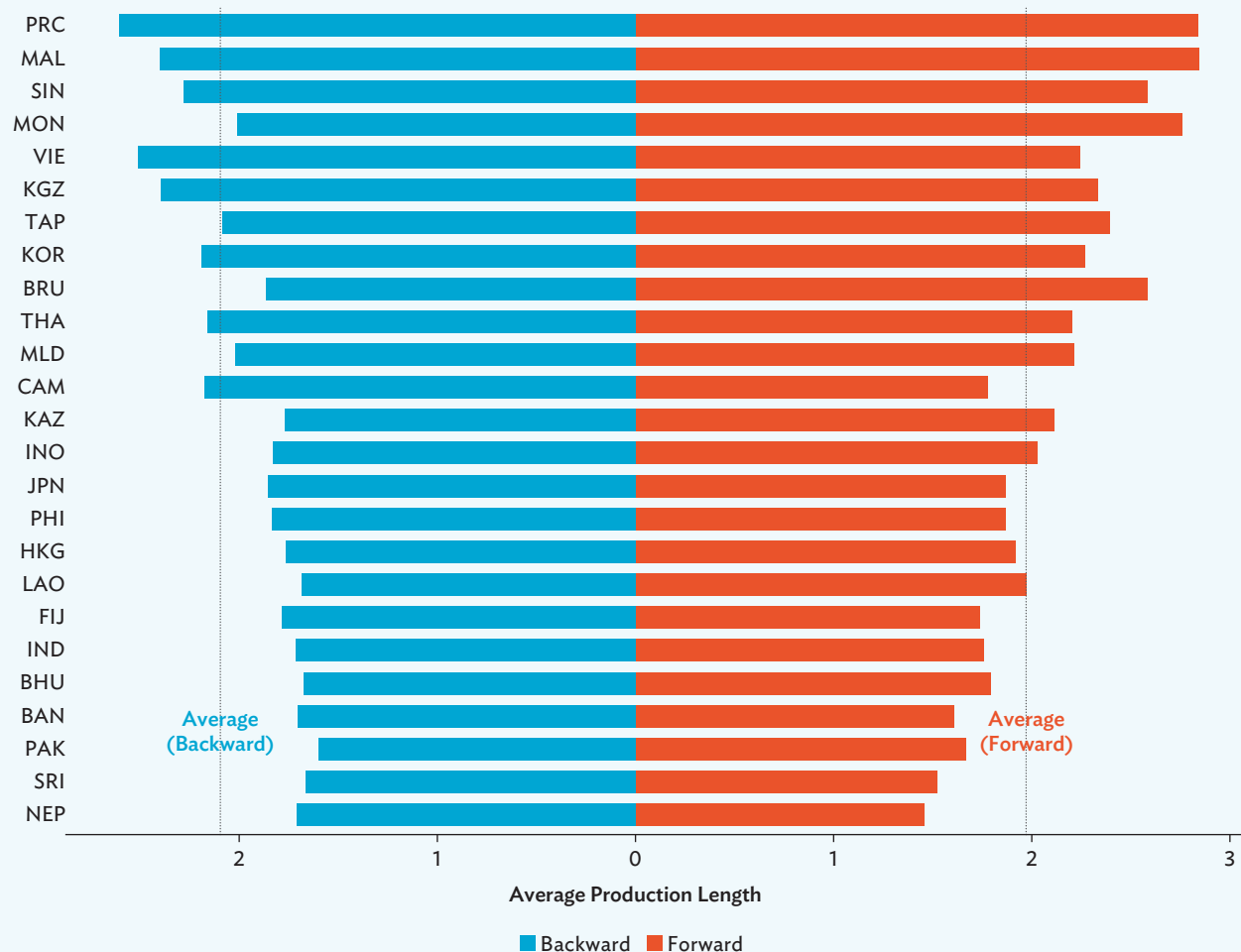
Notes: Average GVC production lengths are calculated using the methodology of Wang, Wei, Yu, and Zhu's *Characterizing Global Value Chains: Production Length and Upstreamness* (2017). Sectors are disaggregated by value-added origins.

Sources: Z. Wang, S. Wei, X. Yu, and K. Zhu. 2017b. *Characterizing Global Value Chains: Production Length and Upstreamness*. NBER Working Paper No. 23261. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research; and calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.org> (accessed 1 August 2021).

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Figure 3.28 shows the average production length at the aggregate economy-level for 2020. The PRC and Malaysia scored high on both backward and forward measures of APL, suggesting complexity of midstream activities. Viet Nam, meanwhile, displayed a high backward APL, suggesting a relatively strong degree of downstreamness of the economy. Mongolia, on the other hand, exhibited one of the highest forward APLs, indicating that the value-added originating from its sectors underwent several downstream processes before reaching final use. In contrast, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan had the lowest number of stages between primary production (value-added) and subsequent final use, both in terms of backward and forward linkages. On average, APL indexes for the economies of Asia and the Pacific indicate that it takes around two production stages before a sector's value-added reaches its final consumer.

Figure 3.28: Average Production Lengths of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020



BAN = Bangladesh, BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India, INO = Indonesia; GVC = global value chain, JPN = Japan, KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: Average GVC production lengths are calculated using the methodology of Wang, Wei, Yu, and Zhu’s *Characterizing Global Value Chains: Production Length and Upstreamness* (2017). Sectors are disaggregated by value-added origins.

Sources: Z. Wang, S. Wei, X. Yu, and K. Zhu. 2017b. *Characterizing Global Value Chains: Production Length and Upstreamness*. NBER Working Paper No. 23261. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research; and calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.online> (accessed July 2021).

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3.11 Role of Domestic Sectors

An economy’s engagement in global production can also be assessed by looking at the sourcing and supplying decisions of individual sectors. While GVCs offer development opportunities for participating economies, there are concerns that the gains in trade differ significantly. For economies wanting to join the GVC trade, the ambition has been to perform and specialize in higher value-added tasks. With this in mind, plans to internationalize have been focused on honing competitive sectors that are engaged in export activities—from skills development to technology transfer and creating a

business-friendly environment. However, from a value chain standpoint, exporting sectors are not the only ones engaged in trade. Domestic sectors also indirectly participate and specialize in these production chains by producing intermediate goods that are eventually absorbed in exported products. This implies that successful GVC participation entails extending the focus to domestic sectors and their ability to perform well on value-adding tasks.

The role of domestic sectors is even more emphasized considering the recent “reshoring” phenomenon of global firms. The trend of outsourcing started to wane after the operations of industrial firms were markedly exposed to global shocks and supply chain risks, especially after the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) epidemic of 2003, the 2008 oil price spikes and subsequent global financial crisis, and the 2011 tsunami in Japan and floods in Thailand. More recently, trade conflicts, investment uncertainty, and pandemics have heightened the inherent risks associated with integrated global production chains, and may have increased the pace of localization (Simchi-Levi and Haren 2022). These risks, along with the increasing use of digital technologies, have pushed firms to actively step back from GVC-related activities by reshoring production segments to domestic firms. In effect, reshoring has become a way for international firms to minimize risks from global supply chains.

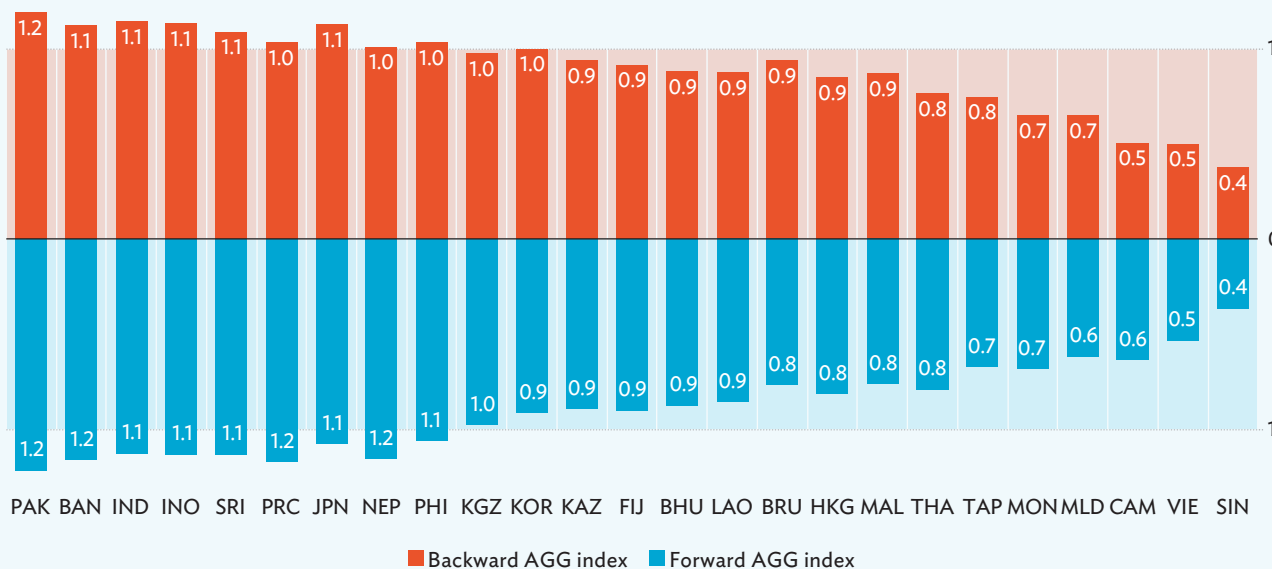
Therefore, in the context of slower international trade activity, measuring the extent of domestic linkages for global production becomes an important policy tool. Baris et al. (2022) offer an alternative measure called the **domestic agglomeration index**. This index looks at how much value-added is sourced from and/or absorbed in domestic economy-sectors, given the production of final goods in other sectors. It is further calibrated to show how a particular economy-sector fares relative to the world average. Overall, the domestic agglomeration index gives an indication of the sourcing and buying patterns of domestic sectors for the production of final goods and services. If a substantial share of what makes up a final good is accounted for by DVA, then a particular economy-sector tends to be more domestically agglomerated from the backward (user) perspective. Meanwhile, if a substantial share of value-added is generated or driven by domestic consumption, then a particular economy-sector tends to be more domestically agglomerated from the forward (producer) perspective.

More technically, agglomeration indexes are said to be high if the index is greater than 1, and the opposite is true if it is less than 1. A high backward agglomeration signals that DVA embodied in final goods and services consumed domestically is high. Intuitively, this implies that domestic production for domestic consumption is higher than the world average. Meanwhile, a high forward agglomeration indicates that domestic sectors absorb a significant portion of value-added generated by an economy-sector. This means the value-added that goes to domestic production is higher than the world average. A discussion of how the index is constructed is provided in the technical notes for this publication.

Using MRIO data for 2020, Baris et al (2022) saw several economies exhibiting high agglomeration indexes from both forward and backward perspectives. Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the PRC, and Sri Lanka all showed agglomeration results that were higher than world and regional averages (Figure 3.29). Meanwhile, 15 economies—Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; Kazakhstan; the Kyrgyz Republic; the Lao PDR; Malaysia; Maldives; Mongolia; Singapore; Taipei,China; Thailand; and Viet Nam—all exhibited lower agglomeration measures than world and regional averages from both perspectives. Interestingly, the Republic of Korea scored high on the backward agglomeration index but low on the forward index in 2020.

These domestic linkages in an economy evolve through time and notably differ from one sectoral grouping to another. For example, Baris et al. (2022) also noted upward movements in forward agglomeration in select economies, demonstrating the ability of these domestic sectors to absorb value-added from GVCs. As the index is also closely linked to sourcing and buying patterns of domestic sectors, it consequentially traces whether activities are being reshored to the domestic economy.

Figure 3.29: Domestic Agglomeration Indexes of Select Economies in Asia and the Pacific, 2020



AGG = domestic agglomeration; BAN = Bangladesh; BHU = Bhutan; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KGZ = Kyrgyz Republic; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MLD = Maldives; MON = Mongolia; NEP = Nepal; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; SRI = Sri Lanka; TAP = Taipei,China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Sources: K. Baris, M.C. Crisostomo, K. Garay, C. Jabagat, M. Mariasingham, E. Mores. 2022. Measuring Localization in the Age of Economic Globalization. *ADB Economics Working Paper Series*. No. 647. Manila: Asian Development Bank; and Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

3.12 Summary

The metrics presented in this chapter examine, from multiple perspectives, the interrelationships of domestic sectors with foreign economies. The analysis begins by assessing how demands in the local economy are complemented by international trade. Whether economies rely on other economies for inputs or demand will depend on the needs and resources of the host economy. The results in the chapter show that, while smaller economies with limited resources tend to exhibit higher openness to trade, the Asia and Pacific region in general is more inclined toward exporting their products than importing materials.

Importing has enabled several economies to participate in internationally fragmented production chains as sectors were able to access cheaper inputs abroad. However, more recent results show a reversal of trend on the domestic and imported sourcing patterns of such sectors. From the demand perspective, the increase in domestically sourced inputs compared to imports reflects a shift in priorities in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. As internal demand puts pressure on domestic supply, attenuated global risks increase the reluctance of firms to source inputs internationally. From the supply perspective, decomposing intraregional versus interregional components of output suggest that the former continue to drive production in several economies.

However, this retreat from global trade, while starkly evident in merchandise statistics even before the pandemic, is not universal. Few economies in Asia and the Pacific are still reliant on global demand, most especially those in Southeast Asia. Participation in GVCs further reveals the two-pronged effects of international trade: that it can provide access to international markets and mitigate shocks in the domestic economy, but can also expose participating economies to global risks. As economies are integrated at different levels of GVCs, revealed comparative advantage signals which sectors and economies could be disproportionately affected by global shocks. For example, economies specializing in trade-reliant tourism sectors suffered significant impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, as did manufacturing sectors dependent on just-in-time supply chains.

As a result, diversification resurfaced as a strategy for several economies to minimize risks. While some economies were successful in deconcentrating sources of value-added before the COVID-19 pandemic, the growing share of import-dependent sectors in some economies could have contributed to heightening the adverse effects of the 2020 economic recession. Recoiling from weak global demand at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, sourcing patterns also increased in favor of domestic suppliers more than foreign counterparts, as evidenced by agglomeration indexes. Domestic demand has also increased in several economies, which may have dulled some of the more severe effects of the pandemic.

Overall, the analytical indicators featured in this chapter are valuable in evaluating trade dependencies, their present economic benefits, and how the nature and behavior of economic actors are evolving in cross-border trade. With the regular compilation of updated multiregional input-output tables, these statistics serve to complement standard analyses of trade and GVCs and their links to economic development.

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Estimating the Effects of COVID-19 Using Counterfactual National Input–Output Tables

4

Using input–output analysis, this special chapter presents a methodology to measure the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The usual assumption is to measure only the observed effects of the pandemic, which renders an incomplete picture since this does not yet account for the missed growth potential (expected losses) in the economy’s pre-pandemic trajectory. Thus, the pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) should also be considered. In measuring the full impact of the pandemic to the economy, a distinction between observed growth (decline) and unrealized gains (losses) based on pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) is made. The key contribution of this methodology is the construction of a counterfactual input–output table for 2020 using the Leontief Quantity Model, which benchmarks the size and composition of economic growth had there been no pandemic in 2020. Applying this methodology to select economies in ADB’s Multiregional Input–Output Tables, the chapter presents estimates on the sectoral and economy-wide effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of output, value-added, and employment.

4.1 Introduction

The novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that results from the infection of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The first case of the disease was identified in Wuhan in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) during December 2019. Subsequently, this disease has resulted in a global pandemic affecting 190 countries, with 289 million confirmed cases in 2 years.¹ Initial research showed that the disease primarily spreads through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose of an infected person, but there is growing evidence that airborne transmission in the form of aerosols can also transport the virus (WHO 2020).² The symptoms of the disease range from mild to severe and, at worst, the disease has been lethal to the infected, associated with about 5.88 million reported deaths worldwide as of February 2022 (footnote 1).

The rate of contagion, patterns of transmission, and severity of symptoms of COVID-19 have threatened the safety and livelihoods of people and put unprecedented pressure on health care systems globally. It became critical for governments to put in place safety measures to contain the disease, mainly by restricting the movements of people within and outside their national and internal borders. Some of the measures adopted on a global

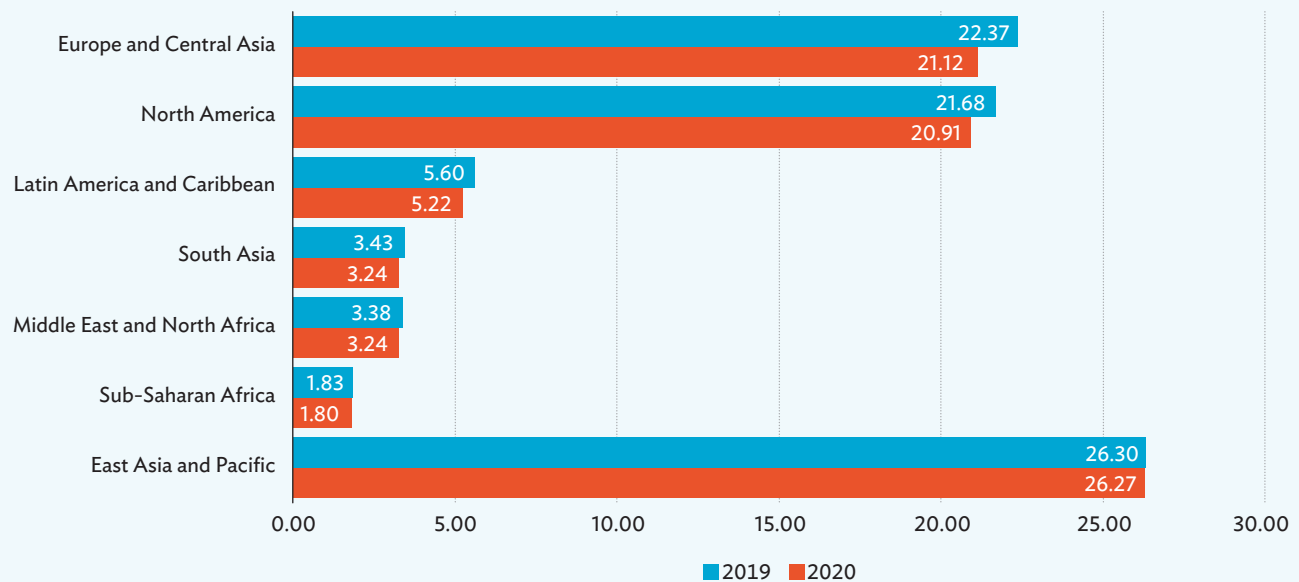
¹ Figures were originally published by WHO on 9 July 2020 and are updated in real time through the interactive dashboard created by E. Dong, H. Du, and L. Gardner.

² Airborne transmission is the spread of the disease that is due to the suspension of infectious droplets in the air for long periods or distances.

scale were the implementation of social distancing, hygiene protocols in public places, and lockdowns. Generally, lockdowns involved travel bans, the closure of public spaces (such as schools and nonessential businesses), stay-at-home orders, and quarantining. Despite the social and economic losses that were anticipated to arise from these restrictions, they were implemented in 185 countries (as of September 2020) at varying levels of stringency according to rates of infection (Hale et al. 2021).

As expected, the restrictions implemented by governments, while necessary, have had detrimental effects on economic growth. At the macro level, the world's gross domestic product (GDP) contracted by 3.31%, from an estimated \$84.61 trillion in 2019 to \$81.83 trillion in 2020.³ Figure 4.1 shows how most of the world's regional and subregional economies experienced economic recession. A year after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the combined GDP of economies in Europe and Central America decreased by \$1.25 trillion compared to the 2019 level. The same declining trend was experienced by North American economies, with their combined GDP for 2019 reduced by \$770 billion in 2020. South American and South Asian economies contracted the most, with decreases of over 5% in GDP from 2019 levels (World Bank 2020). Further, the problem of unemployment grew in many economies, with the tourism and travel businesses facing extensive losses from the pandemic due to restrictions in mobility and social distancing measures. Overall, the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the world as we know it and these changes can be viewed in various ways.

Figure 4.1: Growth of Real Gross Domestic Product, by Subregion (%)



Note: Gross domestic product is in trillions of constant 2015 United States dollars.

Sources: World Bank Development Indicators. <https://data.worldbank.org/> (accessed March 2022); and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. National Accounts. <https://www.oecd.org/sdd/na/> (accessed March 2022).

[Click here for figure data](#)

³ In constant 2015 United States dollars.

4.2 Counterfactual 2020 Methodology

In analyzing the macroeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is often assumed that observed changes from 2019 to 2020 will contain the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to output, value-added, and employment. However, this change does not yet account for the missed growth potential (or expected losses) in the economy's pre-pandemic trajectory. Thus, two perspectives should be given consideration: (i) the observed effects during the crisis, and (ii) the counterfactual scenario had there been no crisis. On the one hand, the realized impact observed during the pandemic is estimated by directly comparing 2019 and 2020 levels of output, value-added, and employment. This is a straightforward approach in measuring one portion of the actual impact with the assumption that these observed effects were all related to the pandemic. Multiple events transpired over the year affecting the global market and this is attributed to the confluence of factors brought by the pandemic. On the other hand, a counterfactual scenario without pandemic provides the unobserved portion of the impact, by showing the unrealized gains or losses in an economy based on the pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline). Hence, in modeling the counterfactual scenario, a key assumption is that the counterfactual basis matches the actual scenario in all aspects, except for the effects of the pandemic. This ensures that the difference between the actual and counterfactual models reveals the unobserved effects of COVID-19 only. The observed and the unobserved effects provide a fuller picture and, combined, give us the actual impact of the pandemic.

In this input–output analysis, three pieces of information are crucial to study each national economy. First is the 2019 national input–output table (NIOT); second is the 2020 NIOT; and third is the counterfactual 2020 NIOT. The main contribution of this chapter is the estimation of a counterfactual input–output table for 2020, which benchmarks the size and composition of economic growth had there been no pandemic in 2020. The methodology in constructing a counterfactual 2020 table uses forecast data and an input–output–based model to project how the economy might have fared in 2020 had there been no pandemic. The information present in these tables allows the calculation of impact of the pandemic on output and value-added. Information on sector-level employment also provides additional insights on the economic effects of the pandemic.

4.2.1 Data Requirements

Aside from the 2019 and 2020 NIOTs, the information needed to form a counterfactual 2020 table must be compiled. Forecast data for 2020, published prior to the pandemic, should be used to produce counterfactual estimates in line with published data on GDP and its expenditures components.⁴ Thus, the following forecast data for 2020 are required:⁵

⁴ If forecasted HFCE and NPISH are lumped as private final consumption expenditure, 2019 information on HFCE and NPISH can be used to disaggregate it. If forecasted CII is not available, forecasted gross capital formation (GCF) can be used to calculate CII by deducting GCF to GFCF.

⁵ Possible data sources are the OECD's Economic Outlook, the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook, or forecasts by national statistics offices.

- (i) Household Final Consumption Expenditure (HFCE),
- (ii) Nonprofit Institutions Serving Households Final Consumption Expenditure (NPISH),
- (iii) Government Final Consumption Expenditure (GFCE),
- (iv) Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF),
- (v) Changes in Inventories (CII),
- (vi) Exports of Goods and Services (X), and
- (vii) Imports of Goods and Services (M).

To avoid the effects of exchange rate fluctuation, all data requirements, including the NIOTs, are expressed in local currency units.

4.2.2 Construction of Final Demand

Given the forecasts for the components of GDP by expenditure approach, the final demand matrix \mathbf{Y} in the counterfactual NIOT is first estimated. The consumption patterns across sectors are assumed to remain fixed in the short run. This allows us to use the structure of the 2019 final demand matrix to the counterfactual 2020. Suppose one has the component⁶ Y under the \mathbf{Y} matrix, then each Y component is derived as follows:

$$Y_{total}^{2020f} = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i^{2020} = \hat{Y}_{total}^{2020f} \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i^{2019}}{Y_{total}^{2019}} \right)$$

where i is the producing sector, and n is the total number of sectors in the economy. This equation indicates that the total final demand component controlled by the pre-pandemic forecast \hat{Y}_{total}^{2020f} is spread out among the domestic final consumption of goods and services acquired within borders following the 2019 \mathbf{Y} matrix structure.

With the estimated final demand components, the total final demand per sector can be calculated simply as the sum of HFCE, NPISH, GFCE, GFCF, CII, and Exports for each sector i . This will form a summation vector of dimension $n \times 1$:

$$\mathbf{Y}_{2020f}^{iQ} = \sum_{q \in Q} Y_{2020f}^{iq}$$

where Q is the set of final demand components Y . This summation vector would be used to estimate the gross output of each sector i using the Leontief quantity model (LQM).

4.2.3 Leontief Quantity Model

Note that the other portion of the NIOT comprises of intermediate inputs consumption by sector and the value-added generated through their production process, i.e., gross output = intermediate consumption + value-added. Since the final demand vector is now

⁶ Final demand Y components include HFCE, NPISH, GFCE, GFCF, CII, and X.

constructed, an input–output-based model can be used to estimate gross outputs, which will be used as a control total for the remaining matrixes of the table.

The LQM uses exogenous information to estimate the gross output per sector. Given that the final consumption of different economic agents is not dependent on the technological interrelation of the productive sectors, the final demand matrix \mathbf{Y} is treated as exogenous. The LQM uses information on the interlinkages between sectors to map the output produced by these sectors to satisfy that level of final demand. The model is as follows:

$$\mathbf{x}_{2020f} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_{2019})^{-1} \mathbf{Y}_{2020f}^{iQ}$$

where \mathbf{x} is the gross output vector, $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_{2019})^{-1}$ is the Leontief inverse matrix \mathbf{B} , in which \mathbf{A} is the technical coefficients matrix of the 2019 IOT. The technical coefficients matrix \mathbf{A} is given by the ratio of the intermediate input to the gross output. The matrix provides information on the proportion of inputs needed from each sector to produce a sector's output. The underlying assumption is that the technology of production within a year does not change drastically, hence the technical coefficients for the counterfactual 2020 scenario should be the same as that of the 2019 scenario, i.e., $\mathbf{A}_{2020f} = \mathbf{A}_{2019}$. The resulting gross output for the counterfactual 2020 is an $n \times 1$ vector and will be used to control the intermediate consumption and value-added matrixes, further elaborated in the next subsection.

4.2.4 Fixed Technology Assumption

The intermediate consumption is divided between the domestically sourced inputs and the imported inputs. In deriving these components, a fixed technology assumption is adopted, since changes in production structure due to technological changes can only be reasonably expected in the long run. This fixed technology assumption entails the use of \mathbf{A} matrix to derive the intermediate inputs. For the domestically sourced inputs, the interindustrial transactions matrix \mathbf{Z} is estimated by multiplying the technical coefficients in 2019 with the resulting counterfactual 2020 gross output from the LQM, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{Z}_{2020f} = \mathbf{A}_{2019} \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{2020f}$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{2020f}$ is the diagonalized gross output matrix estimated using the LQM. For the imported inputs, this has a control from the forecasted data. In a NIOT, the imports are shown as a row vector below the domestic sectors. Note that the total imports m_{total} are composed of both the intermediate m_Z and final consumption m_Y of goods and services from foreign sectors and is defined as $m_{total} = m_Z + m_Y$. Hence, the forecasted total imports \hat{m}_{total}^{2020f} will be allocated among the sectors and final demand components row-wise to estimate total imports for the counterfactual 2020, i.e.,

$$m_{total}^{2020f} = m_{Z,j}^{2020} + m_Y^{2020} = \hat{m}_{total}^{2020f} \left(\frac{m_{Z,j}^{2019} + m_Y^{2019}}{m_{total}^{2019}} \right)$$

where j is the purchasing sector. To ensure that the fixed technology assumption is followed and the imports-to-output ratios of 2019 and the counterfactual 2020 only have small and tolerable differences, manual rebalancing of imports is recommended by reallocating large discrepancies between sectors.

The only component left from the counterfactual 2020 is the value-added matrix \mathbf{V} with a $\nu \times n$ dimension where ν is the number of primary units included in the value-added matrix. Since the gross output vector \mathbf{x} and the intermediate consumption matrix \mathbf{Z} are available, the value-added matrix \mathbf{V} can be derived as the residual of the two. To maintain the fixed technology assumption, the \mathbf{V} structure of the 2019 table is used for the counterfactual 2020. The residual value is split using the sector-specific shares of gross value-added and of net taxes on products to the sum of these two components. Suppose one has the component V under the \mathbf{V} matrix, where V are gross value-added and taxes less subsidies on products, then each V component per purchasing sector j is derived as follows:

$$V_j^{2020f} = \left(x_j^{2020f} - \sum_{i=1}^n Z_{i,j}^{2020f} - m_{Z,j}^{2020f} \right) \left(\frac{V_j^{2019}}{V_{total,j}^{2019}} \right)$$

where the first term is the difference between gross output x_j^{2020f} and the intermediate consumption of domestically sourced inputs $\sum_{i=1}^n Z_{i,j}^{2020f}$ and imported inputs $m_{Z,j}^{2020f}$ for sector j . This allows for similar gross value-added-to-output ratios (GVA_r) for both the 2019 and counterfactual 2020 tables.

To be consistent with the market-clearing condition, the gross output derived by summing intermediate consumption and value-added and the gross output calculated as a sum of intermediate and final consumptions should be equal. Further, the GDP obtained through the expenditures approach, production approach, and income approach (if applicable) should also be equal. If the macroeconomic accounting identities are satisfied, then we have arrived with a balanced counterfactual 2020 table. This counterfactual 2020 table allows us to estimate the impacts of the pandemic in terms of output and value-added. The methodology can then be extended to accommodate further analysis on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis in terms of employment. This extension will be explored in the next subsection.

4.2.5 Employment

The information from the counterfactual 2020 table can be used to generate a counterfactual 2020 employment data by sector. The additional data requirements for this analysis would be the sector-level employment and sector-level gross output (from the NIOT) in 2019. To estimate the counterfactual 2020 employment data, the EBY model is applied, i.e.,

$$emp_j^{2020f} = \left[\sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{emp_j^{2019}}{x_j^{2019}} \right) b_{ij} \right] \sum_{q \in Q} Y_{2020f}^{iq}$$

where emp_j^{2019} is the total employment of sector j in 2019, x_j^{2019} is the gross output of sector j in 2019, b_{ij} is the Leontief inverse matrix coefficient, and $\sum_{q \in Q} Y_{2020f}^{iq}$ is the total final demand per sector i . In compact matrix form, the model is as follows:

$$emp^{2020f} = \hat{e}_{2019} \mathbf{B}_{2020f} \mathbf{Y}_{2020f}^{iQ}$$

where \hat{e}_{2019} is a diagonalized $n \times n$ matrix with the employment-to-output ratios as diagonals, \mathbf{B}_{2020f} is the Leontief inverse matrix, \mathbf{Y}_{2020f}^{iQ} is the $n \times 1$ final demand vector, and the resulting $n \times 1$ vector emp^{2020f} is the counterfactual 2020 total employment by sector j .

4.3 Using the Counterfactual National Input-Output Table

The first step in measuring the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is to compare the 2019 and 2020 NIOTs. From these tables, one can obtain the vector of output x , vector of value-added v , and vector of employment emp levels (if applicable). It is also possible to provide sector-level analysis aside from economy-level analysis. This is one of the advantages of the methodology proposed. This observed growth (decline) is estimated for the following levels:

$$\Delta x_{observed} = x_{2020} - x_{2019}$$

$$\Delta v_{observed} = v_{2020} - v_{2019}$$

$$\Delta emp_{observed} = emp_{2020} - emp_{2019}$$

The second step compares the counterfactual 2020 table to the 2019 NIOT. The difference gives the supposed growth or losses in each sector had there been no pandemic. However, these changes are unrealized because of the demand- and supply-side disruptions present during the crisis. This is important in the analysis of the impact because the comparison of the effects should start from the forecasted 2020 data and not only from the actual 2020 levels. This impact, defined as the unrealized economic impact, is estimated as the negative of the pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline):

$$\Delta x_{unrealized} = -(x_{2020f} - x_{2019})$$

$$\Delta v_{unrealized} = -(v_{2020f} - v_{2019})$$

$$\Delta emp_{unrealized} = -(emp_{2020f} - emp_{2019})$$

This, along with the observed economic impact, completes the estimation of the actual COVID-19 impact on the economy, i.e.,

$$\Delta impact_{actual} = \Delta impact_{observed} + \Delta impact_{unrealized}$$

where *impact* may be in output, value-added, or employment terms.

Note that comparing the counterfactual 2020 table with the 2020 NIOT is a more direct approach of the estimation. The difference gives the actual economic impact of COVID-19 since those were the gains or losses experienced by each sector after comparing it with the supposed growth of each sector for 2020. Thus, the analysis adheres to the following identity:

$$\Delta impact_{actual} = \Delta impact_{observed} + \Delta impact_{unrealized} = impact_{2020} - impact_{2020f}$$

This concludes the methodology of measuring the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic to the economy. The next section demonstrates the application of this methodology using NIOTs for select economies. These NIOTs are extracted from the ADB multiregional input-output (MRIO) database.

4.4 Effect of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Select Economies

ADB's multiregional input-output tables (MRIOTs) for 2019 and 2020 were used to estimate the macroeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on select economies.⁷ NIOTs for 2019 and 2020 were extracted from the MRIOTs. The methodology is illustrated using data from Canada, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the United States (US). For each economy, the following forecast data for 2020 as of November 2019 were collected from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Economic Outlook Database (OECD 2019):⁸

- (i) Private Final Consumption Expenditure,
- (ii) Government Final Consumption Expenditure,
- (iii) Gross Capital Formation,
- (iv) Gross Fixed Capital Formation,
- (v) Changes in Inventories,
- (vi) Exports of Goods and Services, and
- (vii) Imports of Goods and Services.

Additionally, annual average exchange rates from the International Financial Statistics (IFS) were used to convert US dollars to local currency units. Since the MRIOT's private final demand components are divided between the household (HFCE) and the nonprofit

⁷ The selection of economies in the application of the methodology heavily depended on the availability of reliable forecasted 2020 data.

⁸ All figures must be in local currency units to avoid the effects of exchange rate fluctuation. Data collected in USD are converted into local currency units.

institutions serving households (NPISHs), the 2019 total HFCE and total NPISH were used to disaggregate the Private Final Consumption Expenditure. Sector-level employment data were collected through published data from national statistics offices and the OECD.⁹ These were mapped to the MRIO sectors under International Standard Industrial Classification revision 3.1 (ISIC Rev. 3.1). The discussion on India's COVID-19 impact is separate from the other select economies as available data only allow for 11 sector-level analyses.

4.4.1 Sector-Level Gains and Losses in Output

Results suggests that economy-sectors have experienced either gains or losses during the COVID-19 pandemic. In output terms, as observed in Figure 4.2, most of the sectors for each select economy experienced a decline in their output, which was expected since there had been both demand- and supply-side disruptions. However, there were also sectors that did not severely suffer as acutely as the rest.

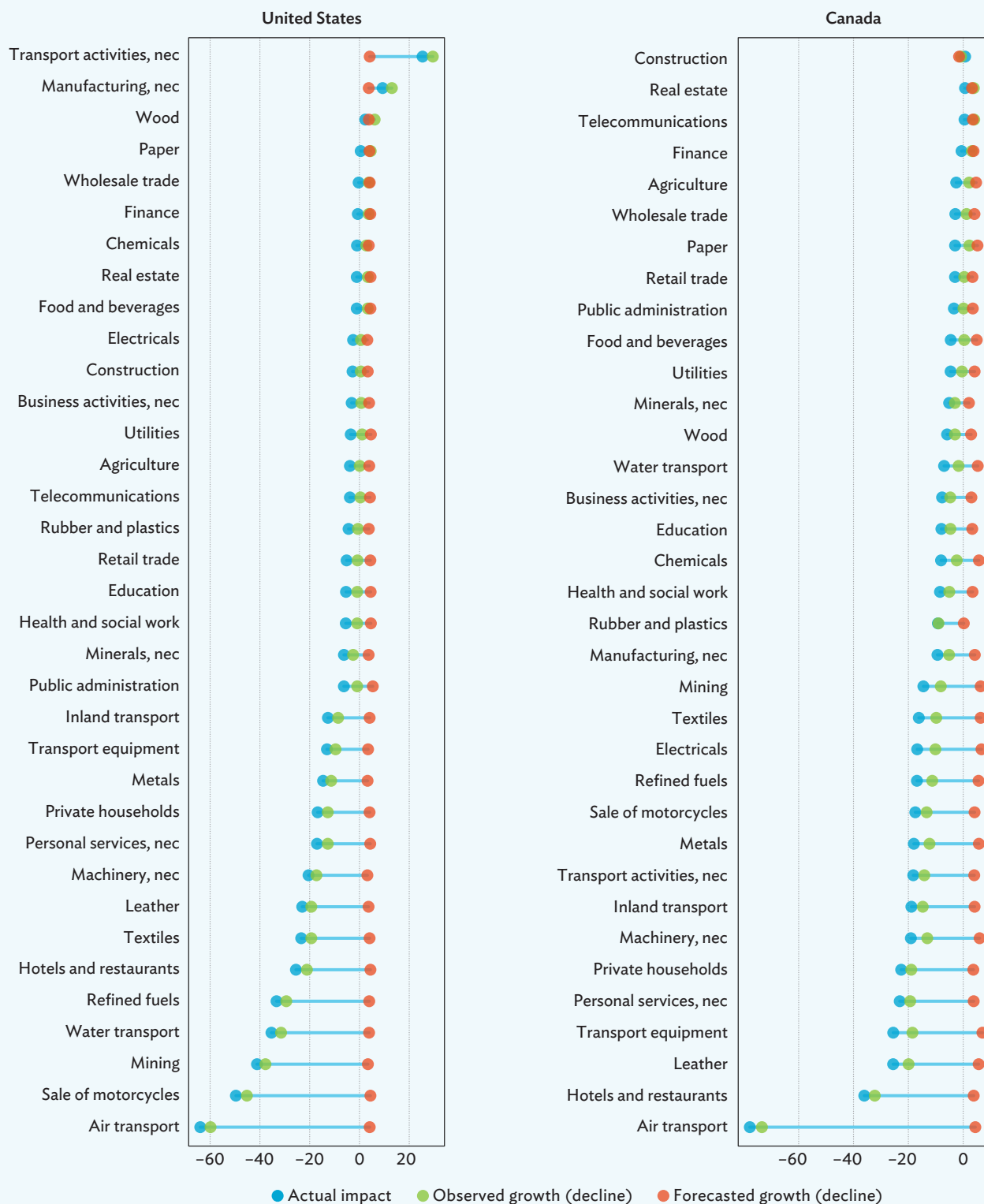
The US, for example, had higher output levels in 2020 compared to its pre-pandemic forecast for its supporting transport activities sector, which includes cargo handling, storage, and warehousing, among others. Its forecasted growth prior to the pandemic is 4%. However, this sector's observed growth rate went way above the forecast, with a 29% increase in output from 2019 to 2020. The growth in excess of the forecast may be attributed to the effects of the pandemic, which is about 25%. This amount relates to unforeseen growth due to the sudden and unexpected events affecting production. Similar patterns are observed with producers involved in the manufacture of wood, paper, furniture, sports equipment, and jewelry. A 4% growth in 2020 was expected yet these sectors had an observed growth of 13%, thereby indicating an associated 9% actual impact of the pandemic.

Meanwhile, Japan experienced a positive growth in refined fuels during the pandemic. This is due to an expected output loss in 2020, such that there was an expected 4.2% reduction from the sector's 2019 output. This expected loss did not eventuate, combined with 2.4% in additional output in 2020. Thus, Japan's refined fuels sector experienced an actual impact of 6.6% gain from its 2019 gross output level. This sector, along with six others, had positive impacts during the pandemic. The other sectors were mostly related to transport services, manufacturing of chemicals and chemical products, and mining.

Indonesia, despite having the highest actual output losses in percentage terms among the select economies (excluding India), still experienced gains for two of its sectors: the manufacture of chemicals and chemical products and the social work sector. Notably, the Republic of Korea and Germany had the highest number of sectors that

⁹ For the employment data of Republic of Korea and Indonesia, the employment numbers for all manufacturing sectors and some services sectors were aggregated hence, the 2019 GVA_r were used to redistribute and estimate employment for sectors under an aggregation. As for India, the available sector-level forecast data are at the 11-sector level. Given this, the IOT for India was aggregated to this level to accommodate the available data.

Figure 4.2: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Gross Output in Select Economies (%)



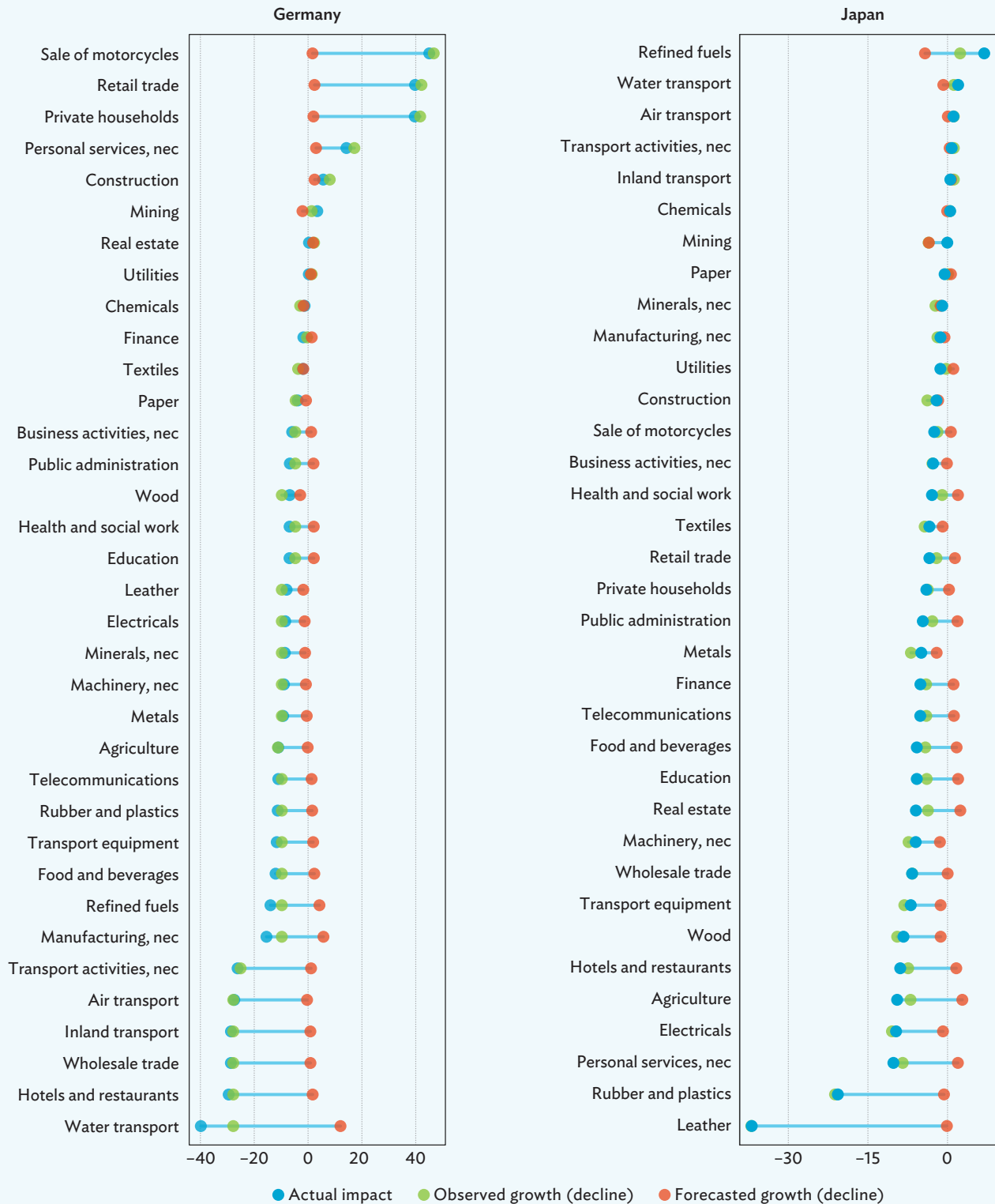
nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Figure 4.2: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Gross Output in Select Economies (continued)
(%)



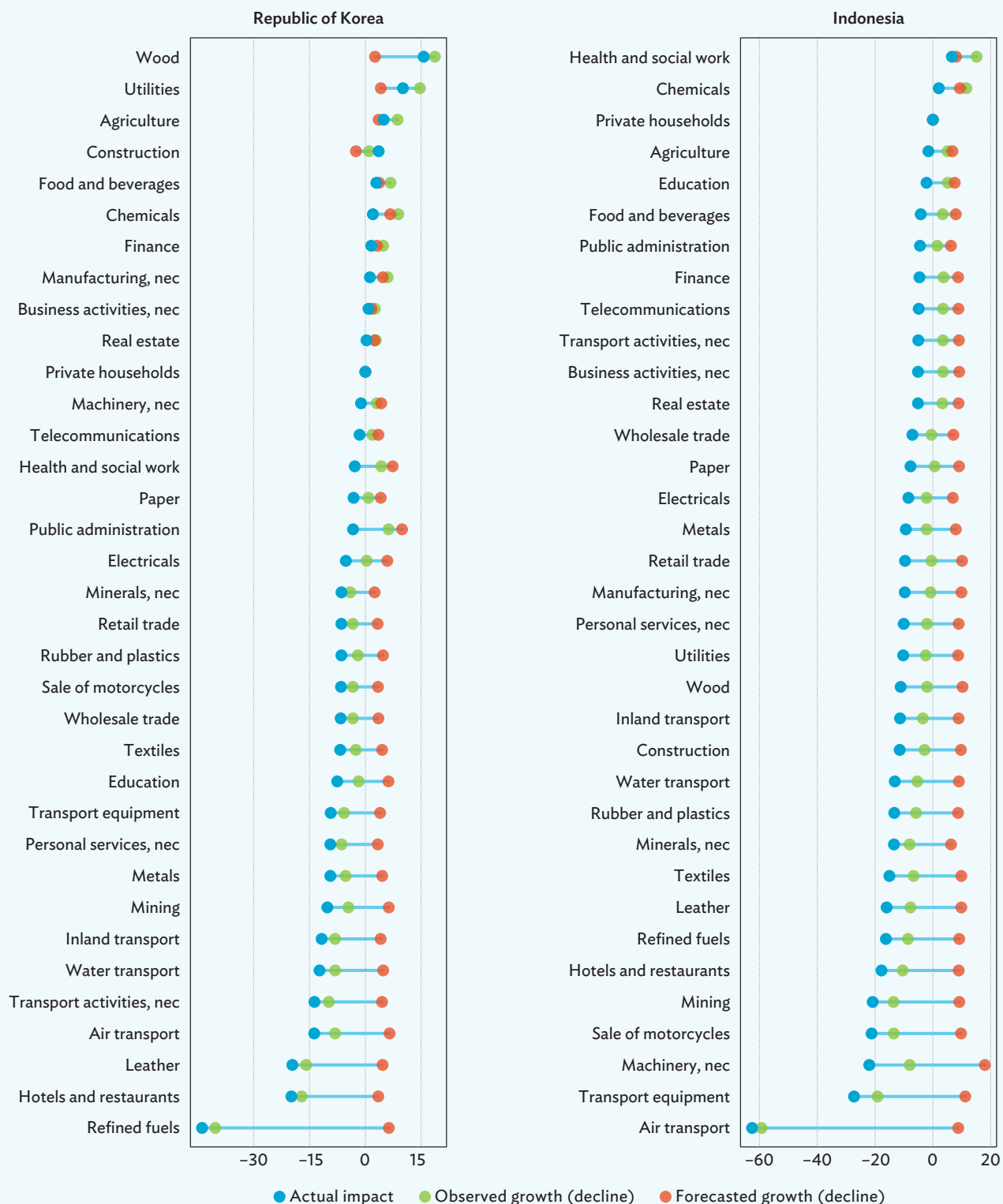
nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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Figure 4.2: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Gross Output in Select Economies (continued)
(%)



nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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experienced sector-level gains during the pandemic. On the other side of the spectrum, most of the select economies experienced the highest losses in terms of gross output in their air transport sectors, mainly brought about by the implementation of regional lockdowns and strict no-passenger flight policies. The estimated impact on the air transport sector ranged from 59% to 73% of respective 2019 gross output levels.

4.4.2 Sector-Level Gains and Losses in Value-Added

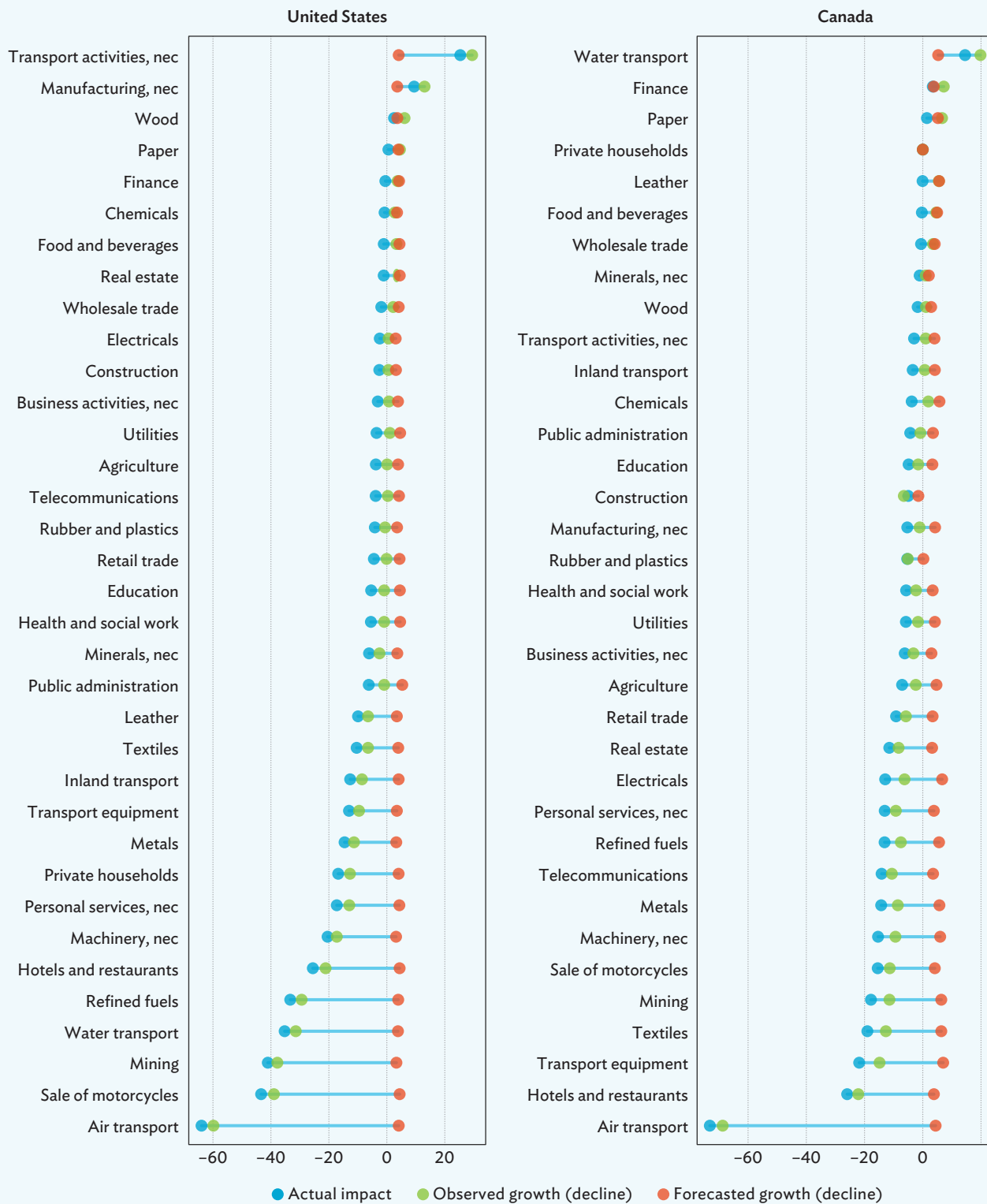
In value-added terms, the sectors were also observed to have suffered losses or benefited from gains. Again, the actual COVID-19 impact can be separated into two: the pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) of the economy that was expected from 2019 to 2020, yet went unrealized; and the observed growth (decline) from 2019 to 2020.

As shown in Figure 4.3, most of the COVID-19 impact on the US's agriculture sector was brought about by unrealized gains for this sector, i.e., \$6.8 billion in revenue was unrealized and there was an increase in value-added of about \$166 million, hence the actual losses for this sector were \$6.6 billion. In percentage levels, with respect to 2019 values, 3.88% of the sector's 2019 gross value-added was unrealized in 2020 due to the demand- and supply-side disruptions during the pandemic. However, there was a 0.09% increase in its 2019 gross value-added during the pandemic. This observed increase lessens the actual impact of the pandemic to 3.79%.

Conversely, the US mining sector's actual losses can be attributed to the observed losses it experienced during the pandemic, as compared to what went unrealized. The sector's unrealized gains were \$10.2 billion, but its observed losses climbed to \$116.8 billion. Thus, the US mining sector suffered a total of \$127 billion in value-added losses as an effect of the COVID-19 pandemic, or 41% of its 2019 gross value-added.

The same trend for losses in value-added was observed with Japan's telecommunication sector. Its supposed gains amounted to ¥185 billion, coupled with losses observed in 2020 of ¥524 billion, thus suffering an actual loss of ¥710 billion. On the other hand, Japan's water transport sector experienced a positive impact because it benefited from gains across 2019 and 2020. Moreover, it was expected that the value-added to be generated for 2020 would be much lower than in 2019 (by ¥11.5 billion). Since this loss was not realized, this has been added to the increase in value-added in 2020 of ¥25.7 billion, resulting in a positive actual impact to the water transport sector of ¥37.2 billion during the pandemic, or 2% of the sector's 2019 gross value-added.

Figure 4.3: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Value-Added in Select Economies (%)



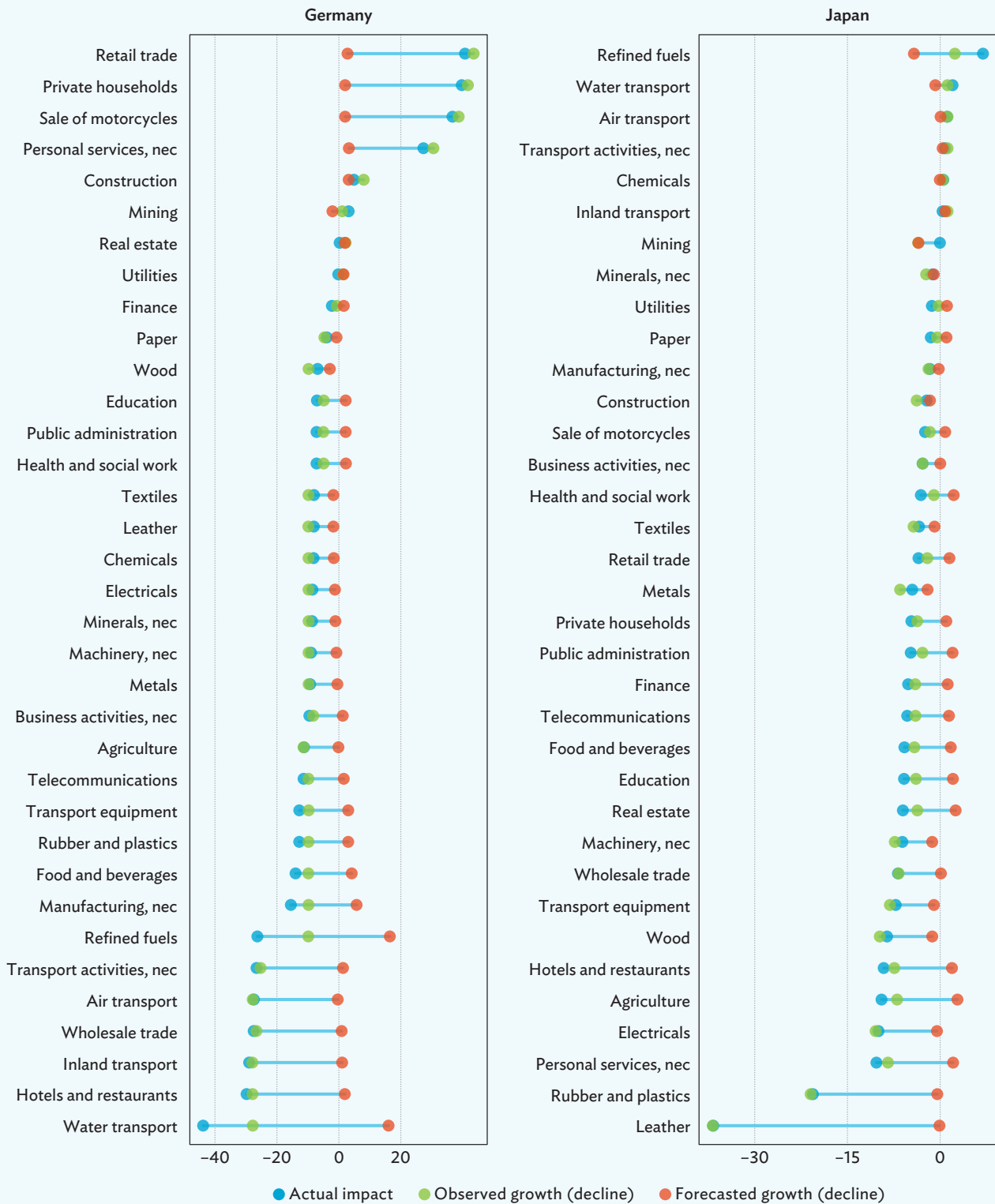
nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Figure 4.3: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Value-Added in Select Economies (continued)
(%)



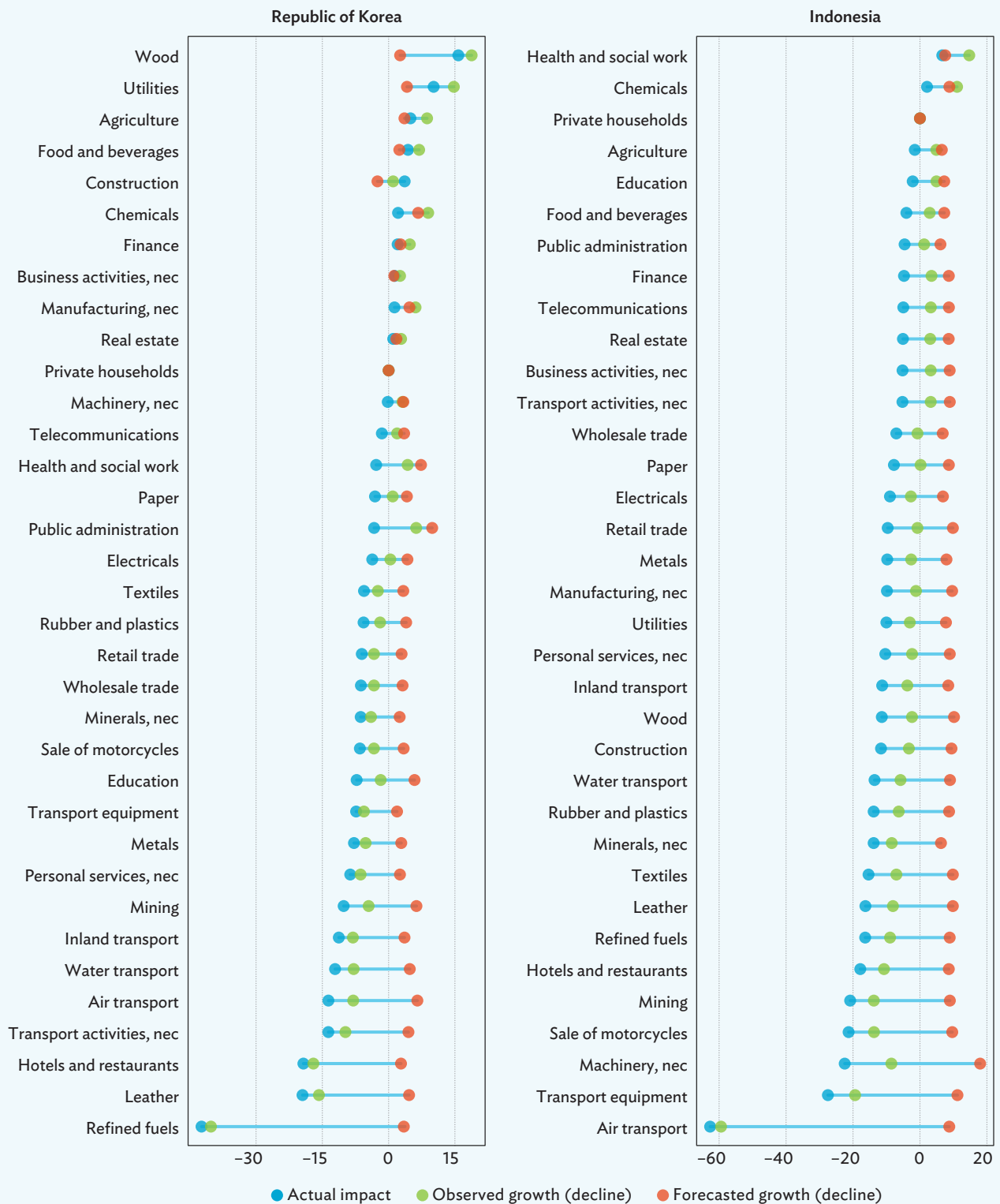
nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Figure 4.3: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Value-Added in Select Economies (continued)
(%)



nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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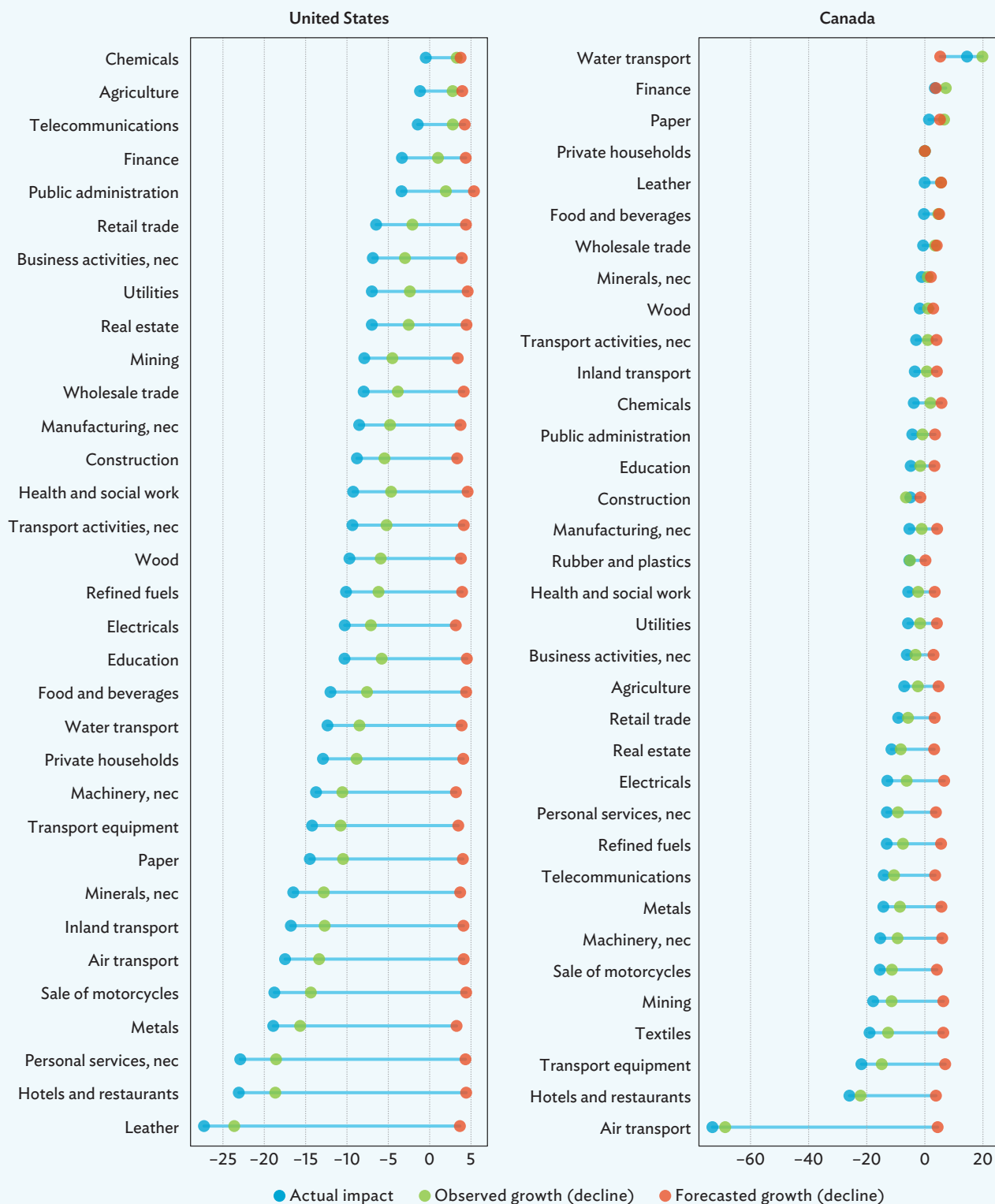
4.4.3 Sectoral Impact on Employment

Results of employment effects brought by the COVID-19 pandemic are given in Figure 4.4. Due to lockdowns and tight constraints, layoffs were expected as businesses tried to minimize their losses. Some people lost their jobs, while some moved to sectors where demand for products and services had increased during the pandemic.

For the US, employment across all sectors in the US contracted by an average of 9% in 2020 from previous year. Most sectors observed losses in employment (in green dots), except for agriculture, manufacture of chemicals, telecommunications, finance, and public administration services—or notably, businesses considered to be essential critical infrastructure sectors at the height of the COVID-19 response. Prior to the pandemic, 2020 was forecast to see employment increases of about 4% across several sectors in the economy (in orange dots). Such employment opportunities however went unrealized, thereby exacerbating the overall impact of the pandemic to an average of 13% in employment losses (in blue dots). Interestingly, the manufacture of chemicals had the most muted impact (-0.5%), with its observed employment increase almost offset by similar loss in employment opportunities in 2020. This is likely attributed to manufacturing firms contending with the surge in demand for pharmaceutical products and disinfectants while retaining workforce on site as mass production of chemicals is difficult to perform remotely.

Meanwhile, Germany and Japan had increased employment during the pandemic in almost half of the 35 sectors assessed, creating numerous job opportunities for their people. The Republic of Korea had nine sectors that experienced positive effects in employment from 2019 to 2020. It can be noted that the inland transportation sector for the Republic of Korea suffered from output and value-added losses in 2020, yet had an increase in employment within that same year. Conversely, the economy's finance and real estate sectors benefited from output and value-added gains, yet had declines in employment. This implies that, during the COVID-19 crisis, work productivity increased in the inland transport sector and decreased in the finance and real estate sectors.

Figure 4.4: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Employment in Select Economies (%)



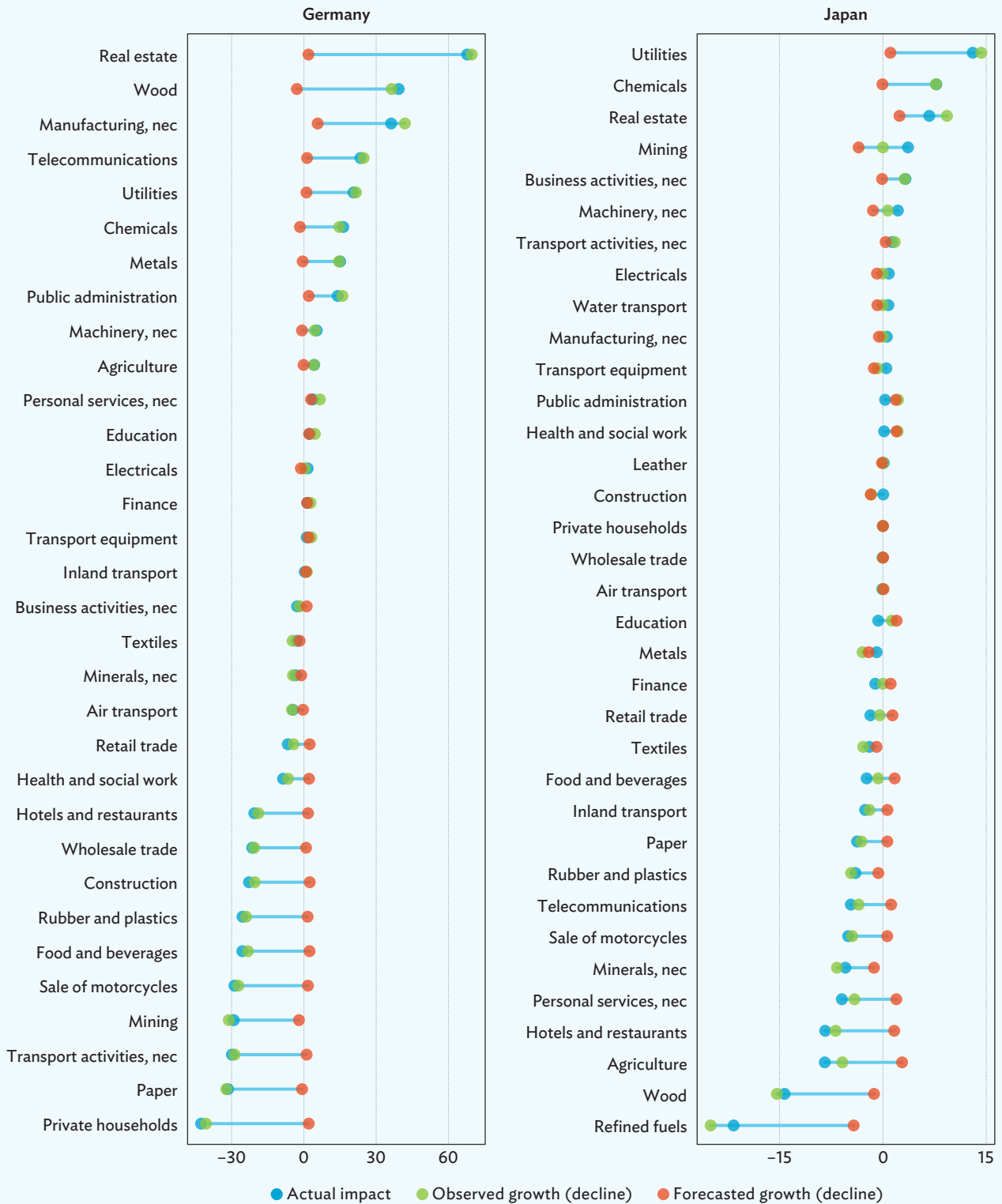
nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

Figure 4.4: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Employment in Select Economies (continued)
(%)



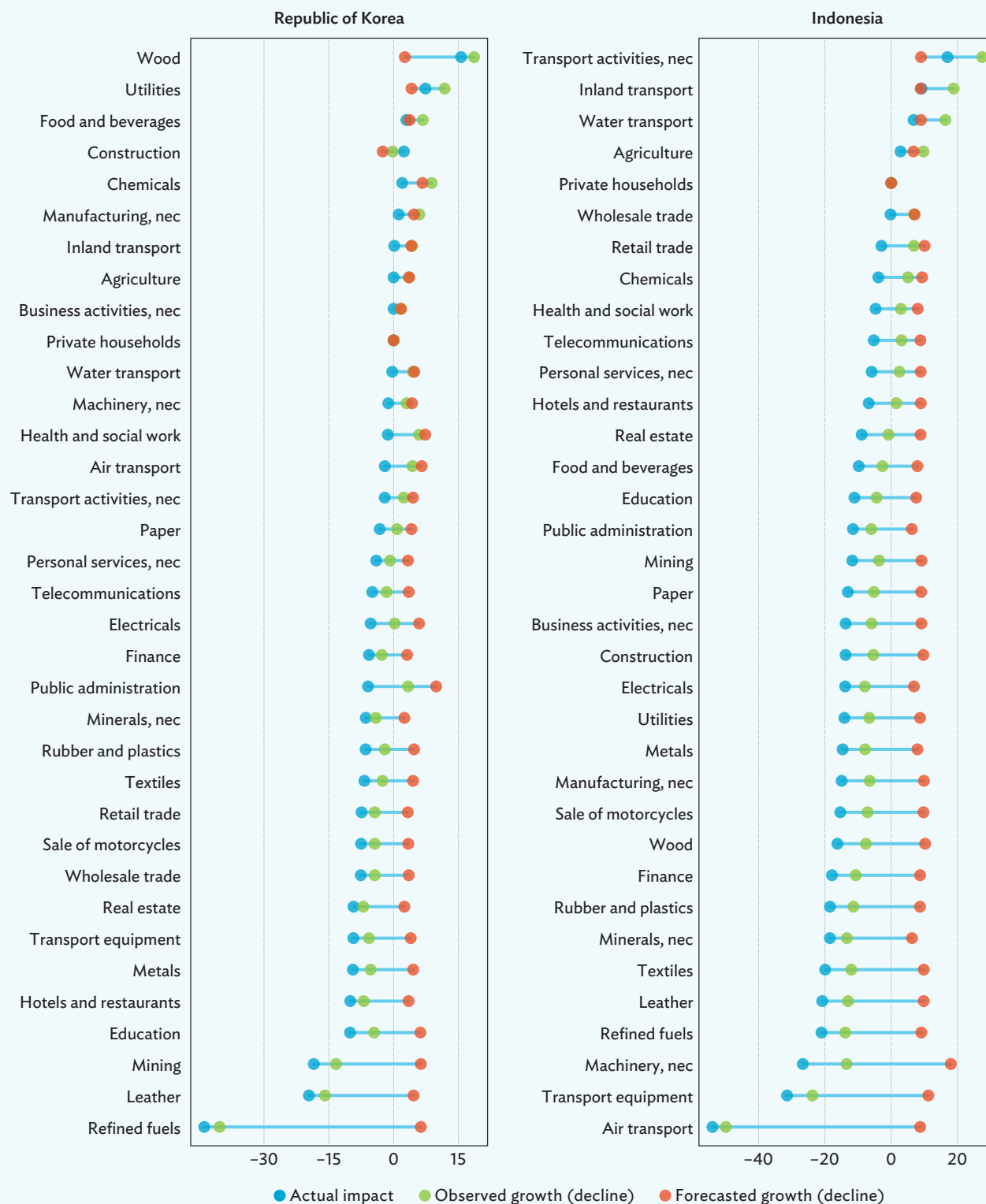
nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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Figure 4.4: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Employment in Select Economies (continued)
(%)



nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

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4.4.4 Impact of COVID-19 on India’s Economy

As shown in Figure 4.5, all sectors in India experienced actual losses in terms of output, value-added, and employment.

Figure 4.5: Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on India (%)



nec = not elsewhere classified.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

India's agriculture sector experienced higher output in 2020 relative to 2019, by ₹2.4 trillion (or approximately 6%), yet the actual COVID-19 impact was observed to be negative because it was expected that this sector would grow by 10% from 2019 to 2020, or by ₹4 trillion. Not reaching its full capacity in production led to a total unrealized gains of 4%, or a gross output loss of about ₹1.6 trillion due to the pandemic.

India's mining sector, however, took the hardest hit. Expected economy-sector growth levels of 11% for output and 10% for value-added went unrealized, plus the sector had the highest observed losses from 2019 to 2020: 21.5% for output and 21.4% for value-added.

As for employment in India, only the agriculture sector experienced positive gains from 2019 to 2020, yet all sectors suffered employment losses once all the observed and unrealized impacts were taken into consideration.

4.4.5 Overall Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Relative to 2019 GDP, the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic ranged from -3.2% to -12.3% among the seven economies assessed.

In production terms, India experienced the greatest negative impact from the COVID-19 pandemic, as presented in Figure 4.6. The economy's gross output losses were 15.9% of its 2019 output and it forfeited 12.3% of its 2019 GDP. In monetary terms, India lost ₹96.4 trillion of gross output, including both the observed losses and the unrealized gains, and about ₹24.9 trillion of the economy's GDP was forfeited largely due to the loss of potential gains, by about ₹17.3 trillion. Unsurprisingly, employment in India declined by 16.7% from 2019 to 2020, also the highest fall among the seven economies assessed.

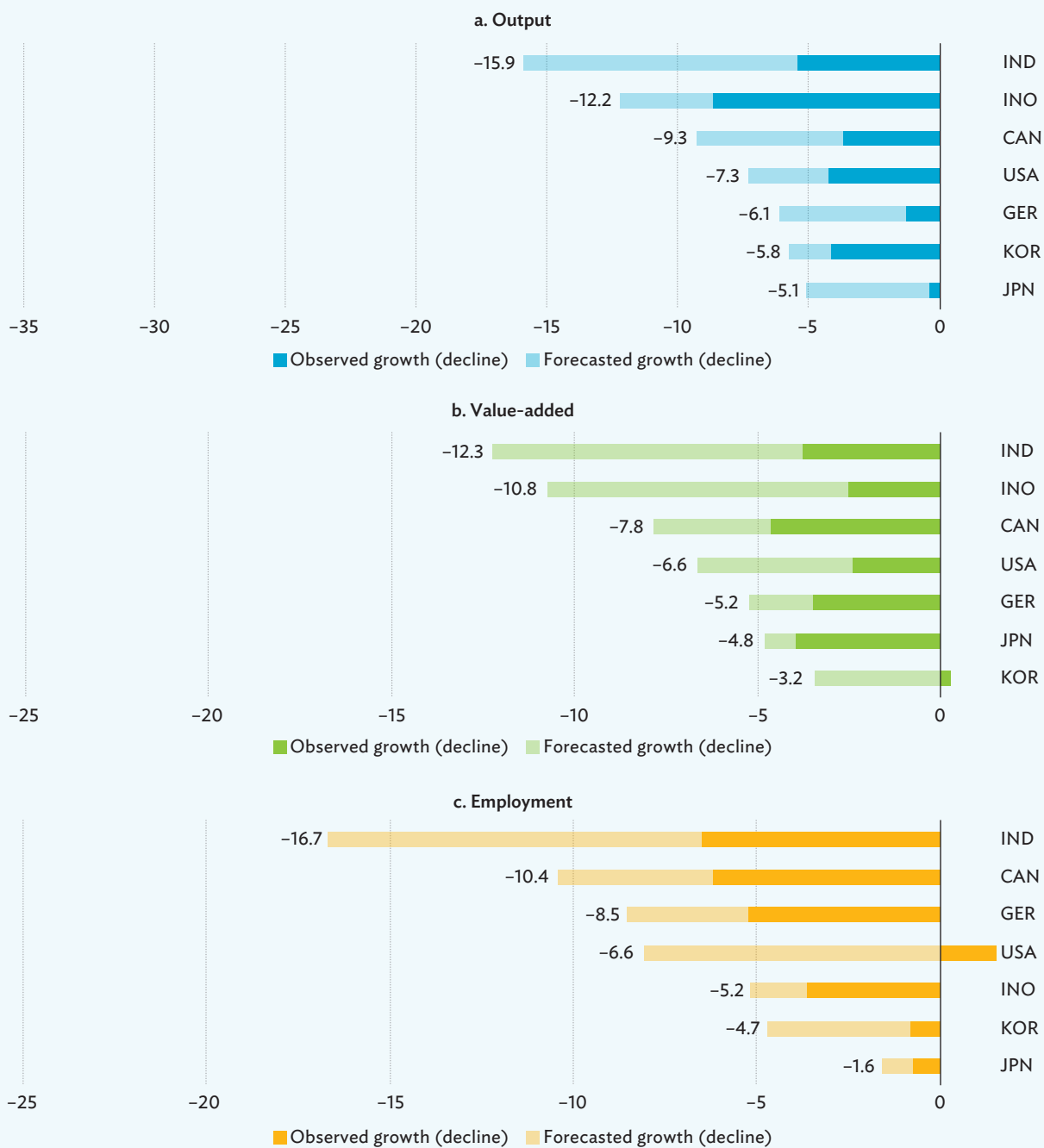
Indonesia posted the second-greatest negative impact, with 12.2% and 10.8% in gross output and value-added losses, respectively. Canada had 3.7% of its 9.3% gross output loss attributed to observed losses from 2019 to 2020. Germany's output loss was attributed to unrealized gains, given that the economy had high pre-pandemic projections for output growth from 2019 to 2020.

Strikingly, the Republic of Korea reported positive GDP growth from 2019 to 2020, yet the unrealized gains had such an overwhelming effect that the overall impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the economy was still negative at about -5.2% of 2019 GDP.

In the US, employment in 2020 grew by 1.5% relative to 2019 levels, in contrast to the experience of most economies, which suffered job losses during the same time period. However, prior to the pandemic, the US economy was expecting employment to grow by about 8.1% from 2019 to 2020. This translates to an actual employment loss of 6.6% as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Among the select economies, Japan and the Republic of Korea experienced the lowest overall impact of the pandemic.

Figure 4.6. Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Output, Value-Added, and Employment in Select Economies (%)



CAN = Canada; GER = Germany; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KOR = Republic of Korea; US = United States.

Note: Percentage impact in terms of 2019 levels. Forecasted growth (decline) refers to the change from 2019 to a pre-pandemic forecasted growth (decline) for 2020.

Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Tables for 2019 and 2020. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

4.5 Conclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed the world in many ways, and it is of interest to measure the impact of these changes from a macroeconomic perspective. The crisis has brought unprecedented disruptions to production and has affected consumption patterns across different sectors.

This chapter highlighted a methodology that provides another perspective in quantifying the effects of the pandemic, particularly on both demand- and supply-side factors. The methodology employs an input-output approach, considering that the use of input-output tables provides both a sector-level and economy-level analysis of different economic indicators, such as output, value-added, and employment.

The usual indicator in pinning down the effects of the pandemic is the observed differences between 2019 and 2020. This is an incomplete picture of the COVID-19 situation since the missed potential growth (expected losses) was not taken into account. The actual pandemic impact can be decomposed into two components: the observed and the forecasted growths. Hence, in measuring the COVID-19 impact, it is important to construct a counterfactual 2020 input-output table as comparison to the 2019 and 2020 tables. The main contribution of this chapter is a detailed methodology of constructing a counterfactual 2020 table, which makes use of the Leontief quantity model which benchmarks the size and composition of economic growth had there been no pandemic in 2020.

As the results imply, there were both gains and losses during the COVID-19 crisis, evidenced through sector-level analyses. Although most sectors suffered declines in output, value-added, and/or employment, some sectors managed to achieve gains. This was the case particularly in transport-related sectors, due to growth in the activities of couriers, logistics businesses, and the like.

The results also show how the actual impact can be divided into two components for more in-depth analysis: (i) the forecasted growth (decline) of the economy that was expected from 2019 to 2020, yet went unrealized, and (ii) the observed growth (decline) from 2019 to 2020.

Finally, the estimates showed the range of the pandemic's effect to be between -3.2% and -12.3% , relative to each economy's 2019 GDP, with Japan and the Republic of Korea having the lowest impacts and India suffering the greatest impact.

Overall, findings from this approach have the potential to inform evidence-based policies aimed at mitigating the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and other potential shocks that may arise in the future.

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Establishing a Framework for Measuring the Digital Economy

5

The lack of consensus on an established framework to estimate the digital economy has caused statistical analysis to lag behind the pace of increasing digitalization in many economic activities. This special chapter puts forward the proposed methodology outlined in ADB's Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021, which applies the measurement approach to the ADB Multiregional Input–Output Tables. As a continuation of the bank's efforts in 2021, this chapter presents longer-period estimates of the digital economy in 20 select national economies from across Asia and the Pacific.

5.1 Introduction

Digital transformation has become a defining feature of the modern economy. Technologies created through innovation are profoundly reshaping the way economic actors interact and transact with one another. More people communicate online, work remotely, and exchange products through computer networks. This transformation was further accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As economies shifted to a contactless world, digital technologies served as a lifeline for many businesses that otherwise experienced devastating impacts of the pandemic—whether due to supply chain disruptions, containment measures, substantial contractions in consumer spending, or a combination of them all.

While digitalization was underway prior to the pandemic, experts have highlighted that the pace and scale at which it is being deployed in the present day sets it apart from past experience. Many of the largest global companies appear to be predominantly engaged in digital products and digital platform activity. Meanwhile, governments are minting new ministries of information and communication technology, signaling the growing role of digital technologies. Digital infrastructure investments are being rolled out across the globe. Decades-old laws on taxation, privacy, and data-sharing are once again being reopened for debate. In essence, innovating and adapting to changes brought about by digital technologies has progressively become the norm rather than the exception across all parts of the global economy.

As economies progress toward digital transformation, many policies designed for the nondigital world will need to catch up to capture the dynamics, opportunities, and challenges of the new digital economy. Some progress has been made in that regard. For instance, information and communication technologies (ICT) have been instrumental in economic growth and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development (UNCTAD 2020). Impacts of digitalization cut across several areas of economic development, such as the potential for job creation and destruction, skills development, commercial competition, consumer protection, data privacy, taxation, and trade, among many others. As such, considerable attention from governments has been directed toward the designing of ICT policies and strategies, which evidently require sound knowledge of the state of digital sectors and their interactions with the rest of the economy.

Unfortunately, the statistics required to make informed decisions on digital issues are often lacking, especially in developing economies. In many cases, a standard definition of the digital economy and awareness of the international practices for compiling relevant economic statistics are both lacking. This situation makes it difficult for national economies not only to formulate evidence-based policies on the ICT sector but also to institutionalize digital-economy topics into their regular statistical programs (UNCTAD 2020).

5.2 Measurement Challenges

The difficulties in defining the scope of the digital economy are well documented in *A Roadmap Toward a Common Framework for Measuring the Digital Economy*, a report from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD 2020).

As a starting point, the *Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021* (ADB 2021) proposes a narrow definition of the digital economy and provides a simple measurement framework that is already aligned with the System of National Accounts and conventional input-output methodologies. By utilizing existing macroeconomic frameworks, national statistics offices can overcome the costly need to develop new statistical frameworks and collection systems in the short run. Since data requirements are accessible within an economy's own statistical systems, these statistics offices may already be able to provide the much-needed statistics for understanding the size and components of their respective digital economies.

The foremost challenge to a standard measurement approach pertains to definitional issues. As context, the changes brought about by digital products, often used interchangeably with digital technologies, can generally be categorized in three ways representing different degrees of integration: digitization, digitalization, and digital transformation. Digitization refers to the process of converting data into a digital format. Digitalization refers to the incorporation of digitized data into established production processes to achieve higher efficiencies. Digital transformation is a wider application of digitalization in that it involves a more extensive integration of digital products, as might be the case with a large enterprise involving hundreds of employees and tools in its strategic use of digital technologies (ADB 2021).

In the definitional context, two complicating issues arise. First, the process of digitalization pervades almost every activity in the modern economy. Deployment of digital technologies is seen in agriculture, traditional bricks-and-mortar retail activities, hybrid forms of financial services, and increasingly in government services. Second, firms within sectors are in different stages of digital transformation. For example, while there is a huge potential for the food retail sector to undergo digital transformation (say, through use of online ordering platforms), there is a huge disparity in digital adoption within the same sector (World Bank 2021). Hence, measuring the digital economy through the lens of heterogeneous digitalization raises a practical issue, especially on deciding whether a type of firm or activity qualifies to be in the scope of the digital economy.

The approach taken by the ADB study was to trace which firms (and therefore sectors) are digital by virtue of what products they produce, how those products are produced, and, ultimately, who the products are sold to. This exercise required clear definitions of digital products, which the authors defined as “goods and services with the main function of generating, processing, and/or storing digitized data” (ADB 2021). While there are other aspects of the digital economy to be considered, defining the “core” digital products was intended to narrow the measurement scope, especially in the case where many sectors in an economy are in the process of digitalizing. The core aspects of the digital economy comprise hardware technologies (e.g., computers and digital communication devices), software and web services (e.g., data processing and hosting), and enabling infrastructure (e.g., internet and telecommunication networks). The product classification of these core digital products is outlined in Appendix 5.1.

As previously alluded, this measurement approach excludes preexisting services and business models that extensively use digital technologies, such as finance, media, tourism, and transportation—remarkably an array of activities that have become the subject of policy interest worldwide. This limitation, however, was put in place under a practical consideration, given the wide differences in levels of digital transformation across sectors and the lack of consensus on which businesses to qualify as being digital. For example, use of digital inputs, intensity of digital investments, number of ICT specialists employed, share of online revenues, or even prevalence of robots are some of the dimensions considered (Calvino et al. 2018). By omitting sectors on the fringes of the digital definition and capturing only the core aspects of the digital economy, the ADB study was better able to determine the lower ranges of the estimates, on which the wider set of digitalizing sectors may be added. This core measure enables analysis to inform policies and investments in the digital economy and to assess potential impacts on enterprises, governments, consumers, and workers (UNCTAD 2019).

Identification of an economy's core digital products entails some effort in obtaining sufficiently detailed data. This remains a challenge in many developing economies whose statistical systems struggle to collect data at disaggregated levels. The issue was overcome by the ADB study by splitting industrial aggregates for digital and nondigital production using appropriate data from manufacturing surveys, information and communication statistics, and enterprise data. These “disaggregators” were obtained from data sources used in national accounts statistics, which are generally preferred over private and industry reports, to maintain coherence with the input-output tables and published national accounts aggregates.

5.3 The Input-Output Approach to Measuring the Core Digital Economy

With core digital products identified, the next objective is to identify which sectors produce these products, the inputs they use, and the respective buyers of their products. This value chain approach in measuring the digital economy systematically considers the span of activities associated with both supply and use of digital products. Such information is useful in determining an economy's overall level of digitalization as well as the potential spillover of core technologies to other sectors.

There are two broad components to the equation in the proposed measurement framework.

First, the framework considers the value-added contribution of suppliers of inputs to the production of final digital goods and services. These technically refer to the backward linkages of the digital sectors to the rest of the economy. For instance, internet service providers may use electrical wires, fiber optics, and other components as inputs to production. The income from producing these intermediate inputs used by the core digital producers is counted as part of the digital economy. Acquisitions of fixed assets by digital industries (for example, construction investments of an information technology services firm) are also considered an extension of its backward linkages, essentially due to their role in enabling the production of digital goods.

The second component refers to the value-added contribution of the digital sectors themselves to all their users. Analogously, this refers to the forward linkages of the digital sectors to the rest of the economy. For example, a software design company may earn revenue by providing services to a foreign car manufacturer. In this case, only the value of the software service embedded in the car is counted, and not the entire value of the manufactured car. Retailers, too, may purchase broadband services to operate their e-commerce businesses. While some argue that the full value of e-commerce sales should be counted as part of the digital economy, the framework first narrows its focus to include only the value of broadband services used in retail activities.

Due to the ability of digital technologies to transform sectors, the forward linkage component seems to garner more attention than the backward linkage. However, focusing on only one side of the value chain could severely undersell the contribution of the digital economy, especially when digital firms can easily occupy both supplier and buyer roles in any given economy. In sum, the **total of exchange or flow of economic value involving core digital products and/or sectors is considered the measure of the digital economy.**

For exposition, the full digital gross domestic product (GDP) equation is specified as

$$\text{GDP}_{\text{digital}} = \underbrace{\mathbf{i}^T \hat{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{B} \hat{\mathbf{y}} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1}_{\text{Backward linkage}} + \underbrace{\mathbf{i}^T (\hat{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{B} \hat{\mathbf{y}})^T \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1}_{\text{Forward linkage}} - \underbrace{[\text{diag}(\hat{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{B} \hat{\mathbf{y}})]^T \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1}_{\text{Double counted term}} + \underbrace{(\mathbf{i} - \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1)^T \hat{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{B} \hat{\mathbf{y}} \hat{\mathbf{r}} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_2}_{\text{Backward linkage to other fixed investments by digital sectors}}$$

where \mathbf{i} is a summation vector, $\hat{\mathbf{v}}$ is the diagonalized vector of value-added to gross output ratios, \mathbf{B} is the Leontief inverse, $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ is the diagonalized vector final demands, $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_1$ is the first eliminator vector that excludes transactions related to nondigital industries, and $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_2$ is the second eliminator vector that excludes fixed assets in digital products.

The first term in the digital GDP equation indicates the amount of contribution from all sectors to the final demand for digital products (backward linkage). The second term represents the value-added contributions flowing from digital sectors to other sectors in the economy that use digital products as inputs (forward linkage). The third term shows the amount of digital inputs that digital sectors themselves use for their products. Since this amount is both a backward and forward linkage, it is deducted once from the summation to avoid double-counting. The fourth term shows the digital sectors' proportionate shares in the backward linkage of sectors that supply their investment in nondigital assets. Adding all these terms provides the digital GDP, which is the sum of economic production that involves the supply to, or use by, digital sectors. A complete discussion on the methodology is provided in the *Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021* (ADB 2021).

5.4 Results for Select Economies

This section presents longer-period estimates of the digital economy for 20 select economies in Asia and the Pacific.¹ These estimates rely on national input-output tables (NIOTS) extracted from the larger multiregional input-output tables (MRIOTs). Given the level of sectoral detail in the NIOTs, further disaggregation of digital sectors was necessary. For example, the NIOT sector of “post and telecommunications”

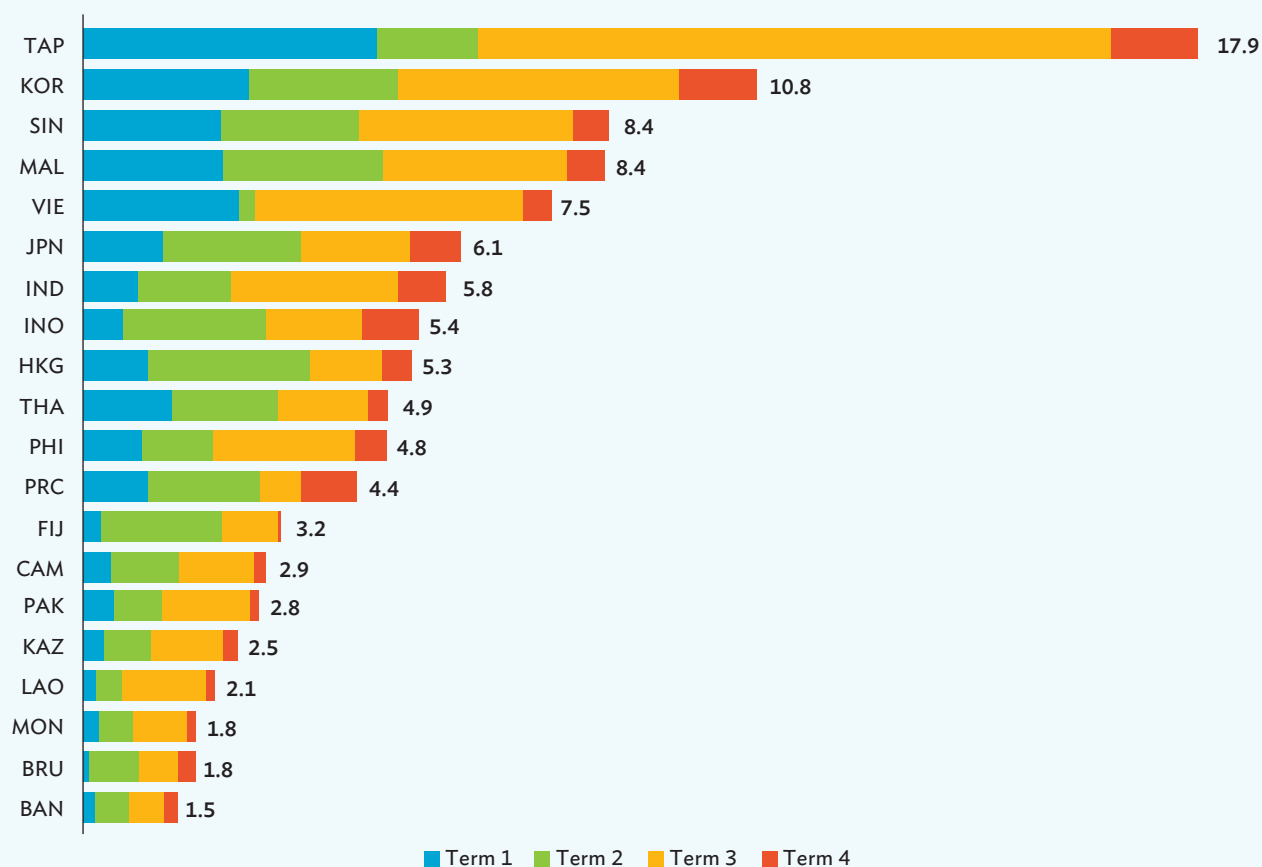
¹ The economies were selected based on the availability of disaggregated sector accounts, with one economy represented from each subregion of Asia and the Pacific. Other economies are prioritized to support internal division analysis. Results will be expanded to include other economies in later publications.

includes postal and courier services that are not considered core digital products. This process required data on gross output, value-added, and intermediate inputs of digital sectors, taken as a share of the aggregate sector containing both nondigital and digital components. Figures used for the compilation of the disaggregators were taken from detailed national accounts statistics, industrial statistics and surveys, and other regularly updated business survey statistics on the information and communications technology sector. For example, establishment surveys include figures on revenues, costs, fixed assets, and number of persons engaged in digital and nondigital sectors within an aggregate MRIO sector. Revenue shares of identified digital sectors are used as proportions for the relevant gross outputs, while operating costs (adjusted for salaries and depreciation) are for disaggregating intermediate consumptions. Once these sectors were properly disaggregated based on the classification in Appendix 5.1, the NIOTs were subjected to the model formulated in the *Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021* (ADB 2021) to arrive at nominal estimates of digital sectors' economic contributions.

Additionally, the estimates were translated into local currency units using the average of period exchange rates obtained from the ADB Key Indicators Database. This procedure was undertaken to control the effects of local currency fluctuations against the United States dollar.

The relative sizes of select digital economies for the year 2019 are shown in Figure 5.1. Results for year 2019 is displayed in the chart given the anomalous period of 2020. Among these economies, Taipei,China (17.9% of its GDP) exhibited the highest share of the digital economy to GDP, followed by the Republic of Korea (10.8%), Singapore (8.4%), Malaysia (8.4%), and Viet Nam (7.5%). These economies are known for their active participation in the market for ICT goods and equipment (UNCTAD 2021). Observable too are the dominant shares of term 3 (value-added flow within digital sectors) in the case of Viet Nam and Taipei,China. To an extent, these indicate clustering of digital manufacturing and services. For example, data-related services entail the use of hardware and equipment, such as transmission and storage, across the value chain (UNCTAD 2021). As a result, the delivery of these services has been critically linked to the manufacture of ICT goods inputs, a process that may be likened to the connection between ore and steel. This direct linkage is noticeably stronger in ICT manufacturing hubs such as Viet Nam and Taipei,China.

Figure 5.1: Share and Composition of the Core Digital Economy to Gross Domestic Product, 2019
(% of GDP)



BAN = Bangladesh; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; GDP = gross domestic product; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MON = Mongolia; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: Term 1 = economy-wide value-added contribution to digital sectors. Term 2 = value-added contribution from digital sectors. Term 3 = value-added contribution within digital sectors. Term 4 = economy-wide value-added contribution to digital sectors' nondigital assets.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Multiregional Input-Output Database. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021); and ADB. 2021. *Capturing the Digital Economy: A Proposed Measurement Framework and its Applications*. Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021. Manila: ADB.

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Figure 5.2 extends the analysis of Figure 5.1 to multiple years for which the current price MRIOTs are available. While most economies increased their share of the digital economy to GDP from 2000 to 2020, some economies with high involvement in global value chain activity for ICT goods decreased their digital GDP shares over the same period. Prominent examples of this trend are Japan and the Republic of Korea, whose economies occupy sizable shares in the global semiconductors market. As a result, these economies became disproportionately vulnerable to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. For instance, coronavirus containment measures and lack of available workers exacerbated the disruptions in the semiconductors market, which ironically coincided with a surge in demand for consumer electronics (UNCTAD 2021). In addition, the economic slowdown in 2020 affected the

Figure 5.2: Size of the Core Digital Economy in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific
(% of GDP in local currency units)

TAP	12.9	15.8	15.9	15.1	16.4	15.8	15.9	15.9	16.6	15.9	15.8	15.8	17.2	17.9	18.6
KOR	10.8	10.4	10.3	11.0	11.2	11.4	11.0	11.0	10.6	10.0	10.0	12.4	12.0	10.8	10.5
SIN	8.3	6.2	6.2	6.9	7.2	8.4	7.8	7.9	8.3	8.9	9.0	8.6	7.8	8.4	8.3
MAL	7.6	7.6	7.1	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.6	7.9	8.2	8.7	8.9	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.8
VIE	6.1	5.7	6.0	6.5	6.1	5.7	6.1	6.5	6.4	6.7	6.7	7.1	6.9	7.5	7.8
JPN	7.8	7.1	7.0	6.6	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.1	6.0
IND	3.9	5.4	5.8	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.7
INO	3.9	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.3	5.4	5.1
HKG	5.2	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.3	5.3
THA	3.6	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.6	5.0	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.9	4.8
PHI	4.4	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.2	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.9
PRC	5.8	6.6	5.9	5.4	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.2	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.5	4.3	4.4	4.8
FIJ	4.2	2.9	4.1	5.5	4.9	5.0	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.5	3.5	3.2	3.1
CAM	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8
PAK	2.0	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.8
KAZ	2.3	3.2	3.3	3.5	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.7	3.1	3.0	2.3	2.5	2.3
LAO	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.3
MON	3.2	4.4	4.4	4.3	2.8	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.8	2.2	1.7	1.8	1.8
BRU	0.3	1.8	1.7	2.3	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.2
BAN	1.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5
	2000	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020

BAN = Bangladesh; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; GDP = gross domestic product; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People’s Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MON = Mongolia; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People’s Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; TAP = Taipei,China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: Cells in shades of red indicate low percentage values, while those in shades of green correspond to higher percentage values.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Multi-regional Input–Output Database. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021); and ADB. 2021. *Capturing the Digital Economy: A Proposed Measurement Framework and its Applications*. Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021. Manila: ADB.

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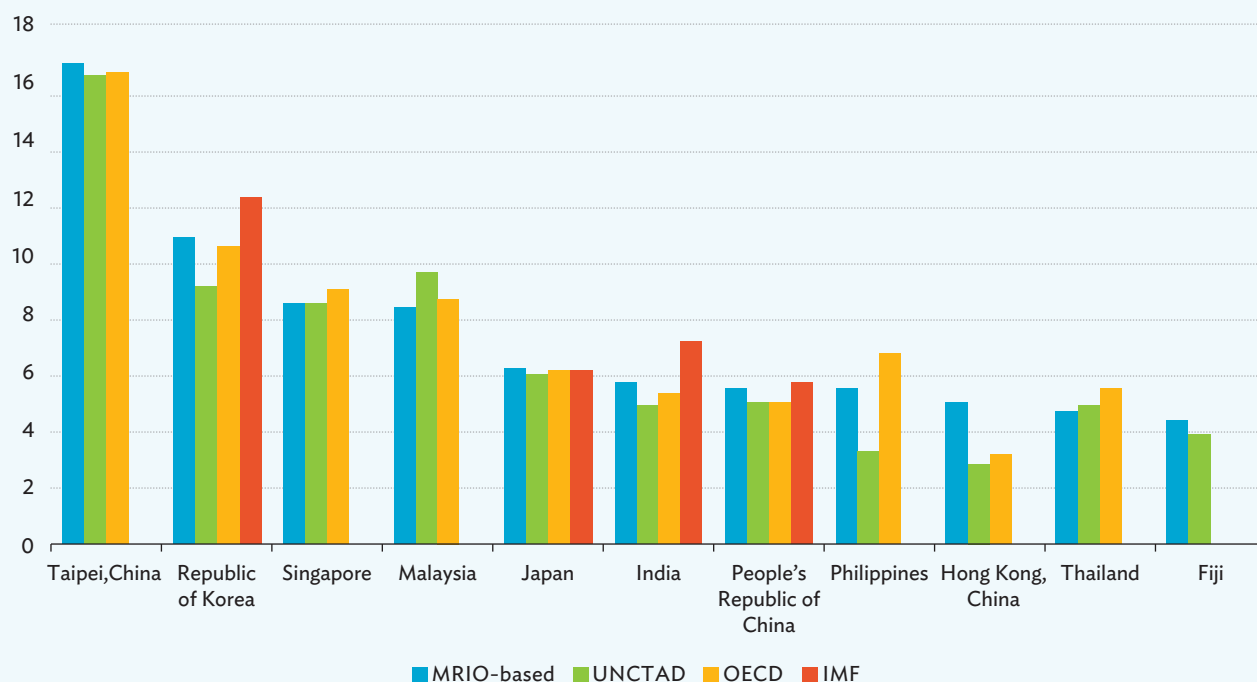
downstream markets of digital sectors. For example, a breakdown of the digital GDP across the select economies showed that backward linkages—generally a measure of demand for digital goods and services—declined by an average of 0.6%, while forward linkages saw a deeper contraction of 2.1%. This meant weaker demand in the market for core digital sectors’ goods and services, while the capacity of telecommunications infrastructure was also tested by the surge in transactions online (ADB 2021).

Conversely, some economies—such as Malaysia; the People’s Republic of China; Taipei,China; and Viet Nam—experienced some acceleration in their respective digital economies. It must be noted that these estimates were valued at current prices, hence changes in the price levels could affect the trend performance of

digital industries. This is an important caveat given the marked decline in the prices of digital goods since the start of the millennium, alongside the increasing productivity of digital industries (ADB 2021).

As a cross-check, the estimates using the MRIOTs are compared with related figures from international organizations in Figure 5.3. These results signal some degree of alignment with comparator estimates. Note that comparator estimates from other organizations generally refer to the 2-digit International Standard Industrial Classification for ICT sectors, which also include wholesale and retail of ICT goods (depending on the availability of the national source).

Figure 5.3: Comparison of Core Digital Economy Estimates by Various International Organizations, 2014–2016
(% of current GDP)



GDP = gross domestic product; IMF = International Monetary Fund; MRIO = multiregional input–output; OECD = Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; UNCTAD = United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Notes: MRIO-based estimates are for 2014; UNCTAD estimates refer to 2014; OECD estimates refer to 2014, except for the Republic of Korea (2015) and Japan (2015); IMF estimates refer to 2016. Digital economy definitions differ slightly from one international organization to another, but are broadly defined as the economic contribution of the information and communication technology sector.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Multiregional Input–Output Database. <https://mrio.adbx.online/> (accessed July 2021); ADB. 2021. *Capturing the Digital Economy: A Proposed Measurement Framework and its Applications*. Special Supplement to *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Manila: ADB; UNCTAD. 2019. *Digital Economy Report 2019: Value Creation and Capture—Implications for Developing Countries*. New York. https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/der2019_en.pdf; E. Dabla-Norris, R. de Mooij, A. Hodge, J. Loeprick, D. Prihardini, A. Shah, S. Beer, S. Davidovic, A. M. Modi, and F. Qi. 2021. *Digitalization and Taxation in Asia*. *IMF Departmental Paper*. No. 17. Washington, DC: IMF; OECD. 2017. *Digital Economy Outlook*. Paris: OECD Publishing; and OECD. 2021. *Input–Output Tables*. <https://www.oecd.org/sti/ind/input-outputtables.htm> (accessed March 2022).

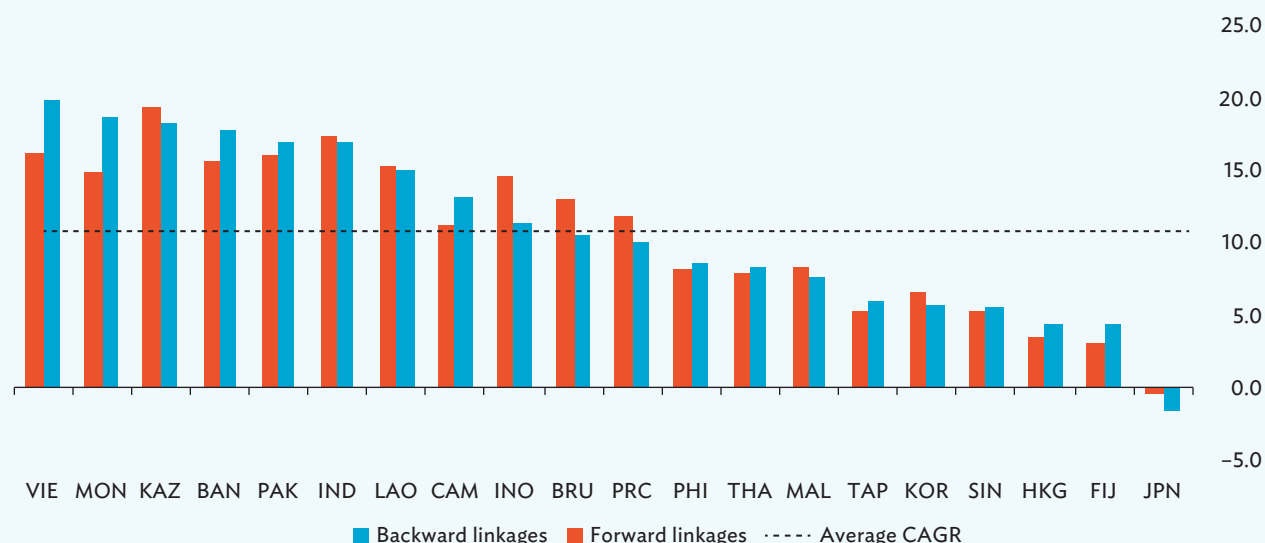
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The sectoral aggregation of the MRIOTs makes it challenging to produce estimates for the contribution of “digitally disrupted” sectors as listed in the United Nations Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts or AEG (2019). As an alternative, this chapter looks at the forward linkages of core digital sectors to other sectors in the general economy (or term 2 of the digital GDP equation). Such forward linkage may be interpreted as the degree of digitalization among nondigital industries, as it refers to the amount of digital inputs (expressed as value-added) contributing to each sector’s respective final products. Higher values indicate that the sector is an intensive user of digital goods and services in the production of its own products.

Figure 5.4 shows the compound annual growth rates (CAGRs) of backward and forward linkages of core digital sectors to their respective economies from 2000 to 2020. While the CAGRs of the digital economy’s linkages are observed to be high in Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, and Mongolia, these rates were contributed to by low base effects of digital sectors. Viet Nam stands out, given that its digital economy occupied a substantial share of the economy’s GDP yet its CAGRs remained in double digits. Growth in Viet Nam’s digital economy is more pronounced in terms of backward linkages, which is expected given the economy’s active involvement in subassemblies of ICT goods. The same is observed for India, whose growth may be attributed more to services than manufacturing, as is the case for Viet Nam. As specialized information technology and support services tend to be outsourced by various businesses (rather than purchased directly by households), growth in India’s digital economy was more evident in terms of forward than backward linkages. This characterizes India’s digital economy more strongly as a supplier than a user of digital products.

In contrast, the more mature markets of Japan; the Republic of Korea; Singapore; and Taipei, China, grew at rates lower than the average for the 20 select economies. Japan recorded a negative rate, implying a contracting value-added contribution of core digital sectors to its domestic economy. It should be noted that price effects are also a determinant in these estimates. Using a limited series for constant price tables, Japan showed modest increases in its digital economy (ADB 2021). Nevertheless, the current price tables remain indicative of general observed trends in the economy. For example, Japan has performed rather moderately in competitive rankings on the adoption of digital technologies (EAF 2021; IIMD 2021), while productivity measures have also declined in recent years (ACCJ and McKinsey & Company 2021; ADB 2021).

Figure 5.4: Compound Annual Growth Rates of Core Digital Sectors' Backward and Forward Linkages to the Economy, 2000–2020 (%)



BAN = Bangladesh; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAGR = compound annual growth rates; CAM = Cambodia; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MON = Mongolia; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Note: CAGRs of the backward and forward linkages of core digital sectors are calculated in respect of the total economy from 2000 to 2020.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Multiregional Input–Output Database. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021); and ADB. 2021. *Capturing the Digital Economy: A Proposed Measurement Framework and its Applications*. Special Supplement to *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Manila: ADB.

[Click here for figure data](#)

Shares of each receiving sector to the forward linkages of digital sectors in 2019 are shown in Figure 5.5. Since a one-to-one relationship cannot be readily established given the sectoral aggregation of the MRIOTs, the sectors shown in Figure 5.5 are proxies for the list of digitally disrupted sectors of the AEG (2019). Highlighted values indicate higher-than-economy's average share of digital sectors' forward linkages. Across sectors, business services (proxy for advertising and market research), finance, hotels and restaurants, and personal services (proxy for motion picture, video and television program production services, sound recording and music publishing, and gambling and betting services) accrued higher-than-economy average shares for value-added from digital sectors. This implies intensive use of digital inputs in the production processes of these sectors. Lower shares, however, were recorded for aggregate sectors of paper and publishing (proxy for publishing services), and transport services not elsewhere classified (proxy for travel agency, tour operation, and other reservation services).

Across the select economies, the economy-wide (excluding digital sectors) average shares of digital sectors' forward linkages did not vary considerably, except for Viet Nam and Taipei, China (Figure 5.5). This may be due to the concentration of digital activities among the core digital sectors themselves. The Peoples Republic of China's high average forward linkage share was attributable to the high receipts of

telecommunications services to the construction sector, which was also observed for Indonesia (note that construction is not shown in the set of sectors by the AEG 2019). Generally, wholesale and retail trade activities exhibited high shares for most economies, especially in the economy of Hong Kong, China.

Figure 5.5: Share of Digitally Dependent Sectors in the Core Digital Sectors' Forward Linkages to the Economy, 2019
(%)

PRC	2.0	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.9	1.9	4.4	1.6	1.8	0.5
FIJ	2.0	0.1	6.1	0.2	1.6	2.6	5.1	3.6	0.1	0.8	10.3
HKG	2.0	0.2	1.2	1.0	0.1	9.1	1.2	1.0	1.8	26.3	1.9
INO	1.7	0.5	1.0	1.2	0.6	1.9	1.2	2.7	2.4	2.9	1.7
BRU	1.6	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.4	1.6	1.1	1.4	0.4	2.4	2.2
JPN	1.5	0.2	2.0	0.6	0.3	1.6	2.3	0.8	2.1	4.5	4.7
THA	1.5	0.4	11.0	1.7	1.1	1.4	2.9	2.0	1.4	1.6	1.7
BAN	1.4	0.1	0.8	2.1	0.1	0.8	0.3	0.9	1.4	0.3	4.1
CAM	1.3	0.2	5.9	1.2	0.0	0.8	2.6	1.1	1.2	2.8	0.2
MAL	1.3	0.5	2.1	0.4	0.5	1.6	2.3	0.3	4.2	1.2	1.8
MON	1.1	0.0	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.8	2.2	1.1	0.9	3.5	2.7
KAZ	1.1	0.0	0.1	3.4	0.5	0.7	1.9	1.3	1.9	4.0	3.9
SIN	1.0	0.2	0.8	0.4	0.4	1.7	2.7	0.5	1.1	3.5	0.9
PAK	1.0	0.8	2.9	6.1	0.1	1.0	2.0	0.6	1.8	0.3	0.9
IND	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.8	1.3	2.5	1.0	1.3	0.9	1.4
KOR	1.0	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.2	1.0	2.5	1.1	1.3	1.3	0.6
PHI	0.9	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.4	3.4	4.9	0.6	1.0	1.3	2.6
LAO	0.7	0.0	2.0	0.1	0.0	1.0	0.7	1.2	0.7	0.7	2.8
TAP	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.5
VIE	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.0
Proxy for:	CPA 58	CPA 55 and 56	CPA 49	CPA 79	CPA K	CPA 73	CPA P	CPA 59 and 92			
	All industries except core digital sectors	Paper and publishing	Hotels and restaurants	Inland transport	Transport, nec	Finance	Business activities, nec	Education	Personal services	Wholesale	Retail

BAN = Bangladesh; BRU = Brunei Darussalam; CAGR = compound annual growth rate; CAM = Cambodia; CPA = statistical classification of products by activity; FIJ = Fiji; HKG = Hong Kong, China; IND = India; INO = Indonesia; JPN = Japan; KAZ = Kazakhstan; KOR = Republic of Korea; LAO = Lao People's Democratic Republic; MAL = Malaysia; MON = Mongolia; nec = not elsewhere classified; PAK = Pakistan; PHI = Philippines; PRC = People's Republic of China; SIN = Singapore; TAP = Taipei, China; THA = Thailand; VIE = Viet Nam.

Notes: CPA 49 = land transport services and transport services via pipelines; CPA 55 = accommodation services, CPA 56 = food and beverage serving services; CPA 58 = publishing services; CPA 59 = motion picture, video and television program production services, sound recording and music publishing; CPA K = financial and insurance services; CPA 73 = advertising and market research services; CPA 79 = travel agency, tour operator and other reservation services; CPA P = education services; CPA 92 = gambling and betting services. Highlighted cells exhibit higher-than-average shares in the respective national economy shown in the first column from the left.

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Multiregional Input–Output Database. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021); ADB. 2021. *Capturing the Digital Economy: A Proposed Measurement Framework and its Applications*. Special Supplement to *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Manila: ADB; and United Nations Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts. 2019. 13th Meeting of the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts: Framework for a Satellite Account on the Digital Economy. Washington, D.C. <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/aeg/2019/M13> (accessed March 2022).

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5.5 Conclusions and Way Forward

Among the 20 economies assessed, the economy of Taipei, China exhibited the largest share of digital economy to total economy in 2019 and 2020, followed by the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, and Viet Nam. Digital economies experienced declines in 2020, particularly due to disrupted supply chains for critical ICT goods and surges in the demand for consumer electronics and internet services. This led backward linkages, generally a measure of demand for digital goods and services, to decline by an average of 0.6% across the select economies. Forward linkages, however, saw a deeper contraction of 2.1% across economies, which is expected given that several sectors that use digital products experienced heavier losses in 2020.

To develop an impression of digitalization, this chapter used digital sectors' forward linkages to the rest of the economy as an indicator of nondigital sectors' absorption of value-added from digital sectors. Forward linkages of the core digital sectors generally increased in several economies whose digital economies are still in their infancy, such as in Bangladesh, Kazakhstan, and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Meanwhile, steady growth in core digital economy's forward linkages was observed for more mature markets, including Hong Kong, China; the Republic of Korea; Singapore; and Taipei, China. This dependence on digital inputs can also be taken as a sign of digital transformation in traditionally nondigital services such as business services, finance, hotels and restaurants, and wholesale and retail trade.

The statistics presented in this chapter demonstrate the feasibility of estimating the relative sizes of core digital economies in Asia and the Pacific using input-output tables. These estimates are based on the measurement approach in ADB's *Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021* (ADB 2021), which narrowly defines the digital economy as the sum of economic activity involving core digital products from both supply and use perspectives.

Extensions to this framework are likewise possible, further revealing not only the structure and dependencies of producing digital goods and services, but also the ability to generate value-added and employment in economies. However, as with any macroeconomic statistics, these monetary estimates are only the first step toward truly understanding the digital economy. Whether considering taxation, productivity, or access to technology, the overall objective is to produce evidence that can support and address new policy challenges in the digital age.

Detailed local currency estimates of the digital economy and its major components are further presented in Appendix 5.2 for the select years 2000, 2007, 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019, and 2020. Note that the objective is not to show point estimates, but rather to highlight the relative magnitudes and trends in economic activities of core digital sectors. Full results are available for download in the publication webpage.

Appendixes

Appendix 5.1: Defining the Core Digital Product Groups

Table A5.1: Main Digital Product Groups Based on Central Product Classification Version 2

Main Activity Group	Code	Product
Hardware	452	Computing machinery and parts and accessories thereof
	475	Disks, tapes, solid-state nonvolatile storage devices and other media, not recorded
Software publishing	38582	Software cartridges for video game consoles
	478	Packaged software
	83143	Software originals
	8434	Software downloads
	84391	Online games
	84392	Online software
Web publishing	83633	Sale of internet advertising space (except on commission)
	843	Online content ^a
Telecommunications services	841	Telephony and other telecommunications services
	842	Internet telecommunications services
Specialized and support services	8313	Information technology (IT) consulting and support services
	83141	IT design and development services for applications
	83142	IT design and development services for networks and systems
	8315	Hosting and IT infrastructure provisioning services
	8316	IT infrastructure and network management services

^a Excluding items under Central Product Classification Version 2 843 already counted under Software Publishing – 8434, 84391, 84392.

Source: Asian Development Bank. 2021. *Capturing the Digital Economy: A Proposed Measurement Framework and its Applications*. Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021. Manila: Asian Development Bank. <https://www.adb.org/publications/capturing-digital-economy-measurement-framework>.

Appendix 5.2: Contributions of Core Digital Sectors in 20 Economies

Table A5.2: Measures of the Core Digital Economy in Select Economies of Asia and the Pacific
(local currency units, million)

Year	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution from Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution within Digital Sectors	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors' Nondigital Assets	Digital Gross Domestic Product
Bangladesh					
2000	9,651.7	19,268.2	7,267.9	2,954.1	24,606.2
2007	63,199.5	80,809.0	46,741.3	13,367.2	110,634.4
2010	97,727.2	125,530.9	74,127.4	20,157.9	169,288.6
2013	136,692.5	183,544.7	105,084.9	28,773.3	243,925.6
2016	175,488.0	230,102.9	131,860.4	42,137.4	315,867.9
2019	194,752.1	283,321.4	145,302.1	53,412.4	386,183.8
2020	214,694.0	301,834.6	158,253.9	58,641.7	416,916.3
Brunei Darussalam					
2000	20.8	28.3	17.4	1.8	33.5
2007	105.2	278.3	79.0	29.2	333.6
2010	91.3	314.6	69.9	47.6	383.6
2013	98.3	288.5	73.3	70.6	384.1
2016	107.4	264.8	89.3	52.6	335.4
2019	128.2	260.1	110.9	55.1	332.4
2020	137.5	287.2	117.5	62.1	369.4
Cambodia					
2000	194,535.0	296,204.2	142,169.4	39,998.0	388,567.7
2007	542,309.1	776,165.8	389,930.1	65,045.1	993,589.9
2010	808,304.4	1,098,076.1	573,368.6	87,000.3	1,420,012.2
2013	1,146,482.2	1,472,297.1	796,731.6	147,482.9	1,969,530.6
2016	1,415,757.0	1,826,672.8	968,055.6	223,905.8	2,498,280.0
2019	1,807,302.9	2,502,483.8	1,308,803.6	230,239.9	3,231,223.0
2020	2,042,784.8	2,231,338.5	1,587,217.6	163,179.4	2,850,085.2
Fiji					
2000	49.3	138.5	39.9	0.7	148.7
2007	31.5	128.6	24.7	7.1	142.5
2010	108.8	247.6	90.2	10.3	276.6
2013	98.3	271.4	81.8	28.9	316.9
2016	204.3	360.5	166.4	21.5	419.8
2019	138.2	339.1	106.0	5.2	376.5
2020	114.1	246.7	93.7	16.7	283.9

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Table A5.2 continued.

Year	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution from Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution within Digital Sectors	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors' Nondigital Assets	Digital Gross Domestic Product
Hong Kong, China					
2000	26,149.3	51,898.6	17,614.5	9,203.7	69,637.1
2007	29,106.9	57,620.4	19,153.0	6,455.5	74,029.8
2010	30,381.6	61,238.2	19,603.8	7,148.4	79,164.4
2013	40,354.8	80,393.7	26,205.2	9,530.1	104,073.4
2016	46,374.1	94,163.0	29,749.0	12,477.0	123,265.0
2019	61,976.7	105,810.2	32,404.0	13,678.6	149,061.5
2020	59,241.9	100,842.9	30,511.5	13,137.2	142,710.5
India					
2000	532,195.8	629,779.8	398,027.2	87,304.7	851,253.1
2007	1,910,017.6	1,916,159.1	1,454,462.9	356,323.1	2,728,036.9
2010	3,084,186.9	3,038,625.0	2,330,080.4	525,440.7	4,318,172.2
2013	4,409,351.5	5,028,720.0	3,519,181.2	691,513.8	6,610,404.1
2016	5,745,002.1	7,200,260.1	4,420,966.2	1,187,358.2	9,711,654.1
2019	7,229,749.8	8,524,300.9	5,464,117.8	1,519,762.7	11,809,695.7
2020	6,633,755.8	8,270,820.5	5,059,270.5	1,405,215.1	11,250,520.9
Indonesia					
2000	40,048,168.3	34,006,763.5	21,766,570.1	5,615,839.6	57,904,201.3
2007	130,776,356.5	137,391,955.6	86,419,113.2	27,690,097.9	209,439,296.9
2010	212,255,234.0	227,917,964.6	151,046,137.0	51,179,955.4	340,307,017.0
2013	278,190,215.1	305,004,887.4	198,229,868.3	69,268,471.4	454,233,705.6
2016	349,602,353.2	400,335,259.1	249,484,582.4	102,001,183.6	602,454,213.5
2019	347,742,610.8	608,615,569.2	246,531,185.6	140,860,145.7	850,687,140.1
2020	314,187,343.0	561,786,902.3	217,664,459.2	128,517,710.0	786,827,496.1
Japan					
2000	21,184,382.8	23,067,414.8	11,065,295.5	5,698,458.9	38,884,960.9
2007	19,818,161.6	22,612,494.1	10,698,965.5	4,315,641.6	36,047,331.8
2010	16,590,249.7	20,311,871.6	9,242,820.8	3,465,332.1	31,124,632.6
2013	14,805,562.7	19,284,433.2	8,542,228.1	3,254,802.2	28,802,570.0
2016	16,598,944.7	21,353,886.9	9,564,659.4	4,019,088.1	32,407,260.4
2019	16,866,667.6	22,193,632.1	9,722,166.9	4,650,551.8	33,988,684.7
2020	15,828,468.8	21,036,731.8	9,033,877.5	4,482,801.8	32,314,124.9

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Table A5.2 *continued*.

Year	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution from Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution within Digital Sectors	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors' Nondigital Assets	Digital Gross Domestic Product
Kazakhstan					
2000	39,598.4	41,692.4	24,616.7	2,446.6	59,120.7
2007	174,051.1	327,477.2	129,695.3	38,698.0	410,531.1
2010	643,566.7	623,163.5	469,520.6	69,827.9	867,037.5
2013	865,276.9	899,892.2	655,627.4	113,966.9	1,223,508.6
2016	974,483.8	1,013,711.8	713,441.8	130,522.5	1,405,276.3
2019	1,032,579.6	1,317,481.3	797,127.3	160,654.5	1,713,588.2
2020	949,542.1	1,197,727.0	715,277.4	154,492.6	1,586,484.3
Republic of Korea					
2000	45,715,347.4	37,594,289.3	24,656,692.5	10,074,349.1	68,727,293.3
2007	69,778,834.8	61,214,764.7	36,851,746.7	14,798,034.2	108,939,887.0
2010	94,814,902.6	79,282,865.2	50,479,461.3	17,655,470.5	141,273,777.1
2013	107,974,057.3	90,860,298.7	60,071,122.6	18,528,743.6	157,291,977.0
2016	109,046,297.0	91,291,498.8	57,981,321.0	21,639,745.6	163,996,220.4
2019	137,192,266.7	131,942,830.7	86,136,423.0	23,979,260.2	206,977,934.6
2020	130,047,070.1	126,500,918.5	80,294,879.3	25,239,454.3	201,492,563.7
Lao People's Democratic Republic					
2000	206,220.7	228,722.3	181,955.0	10,365.3	263,353.3
2007	616,739.7	809,203.3	545,787.2	122,862.7	1,003,018.5
2010	942,500.5	1,144,742.2	823,845.3	164,766.6	1,428,164.0
2013	1,069,366.9	1,419,438.8	917,740.9	121,543.7	1,692,608.5
2016	1,574,492.5	1,982,534.2	1,355,974.3	154,003.9	2,355,056.2
2019	2,550,385.9	2,899,885.7	2,221,702.9	237,690.1	3,466,258.8
2020	2,967,363.9	3,392,487.8	2,541,968.2	341,982.2	4,159,865.7
Malaysia					
2000	18,915.9	18,448.3	13,358.4	1,996.6	26,002.4
2007	38,773.2	35,600.7	26,253.4	2,368.5	50,488.9
2010	39,805.2	45,575.4	26,925.1	3,744.1	62,199.5
2013	50,499.0	52,460.0	27,877.0	5,186.5	80,268.5
2016	67,824.3	69,606.1	35,880.1	7,804.9	109,355.2
2019	78,616.7	83,652.3	44,846.2	8,954.7	126,377.4
2020	73,690.3	83,300.6	40,328.8	8,071.2	124,733.4

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Table A5.2 *continued.*

Year	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution from Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution within Digital Sectors	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors' Nondigital Assets	Digital Gross Domestic Product
Mongolia					
2000	15,790.0	34,469.5	15,167.2	3,300.1	38,392.5
2007	98,263.3	169,825.7	76,682.1	24,419.5	215,826.3
2010	115,752.2	210,668.9	86,420.5	29,976.1	269,976.7
2013	188,963.4	309,780.6	148,327.6	51,838.7	402,255.2
2016	348,352.9	541,043.7	266,978.2	63,426.5	685,844.9
2019	411,301.7	521,962.8	316,500.0	59,130.9	675,895.5
2020	408,971.5	483,438.9	296,764.9	58,482.6	654,128.1
Pakistan					
2000	40,216.5	53,906.0	25,073.6	5,474.0	74,523.0
2007	169,297.8	174,037.8	113,136.0	18,539.9	248,739.5
2010	262,989.0	290,440.3	177,735.4	24,112.3	399,806.2
2013	349,834.9	408,993.4	244,217.6	29,813.9	544,424.6
2016	478,098.5	568,685.3	338,058.1	44,875.6	753,601.2
2019	724,980.8	825,091.6	536,844.7	55,534.9	1,068,762.6
2020	791,684.9	916,634.3	588,288.8	65,250.7	1,185,281.0
Philippines					
2000	115,931.4	135,050.5	85,541.1	11,607.7	177,048.5
2007	328,230.6	341,504.3	237,875.5	34,988.1	466,847.5
2010	362,502.4	393,722.5	242,449.2	48,637.5	562,413.2
2013	419,141.2	456,444.3	292,118.5	56,102.4	639,569.4
2016	484,970.7	547,840.1	343,438.0	72,352.4	761,725.1
2019	597,408.3	636,944.9	421,190.4	89,304.8	902,467.6
2020	559,254.0	607,332.4	394,372.1	68,037.4	840,251.6
People's Republic of China					
2000	299,855.8	312,834.0	125,287.1	85,756.2	573,159.0
2007	927,972.6	991,828.3	421,410.2	257,252.6	1,755,643.3
2010	1,121,261.5	1,271,609.6	487,747.7	424,214.1	2,329,337.5
2013	1,400,483.6	1,735,036.8	636,182.0	546,506.6	3,045,845.0
2016	1,783,377.3	2,420,018.9	829,573.4	738,136.6	4,111,959.5
2019	1,703,339.2	2,413,260.3	666,712.0	863,673.4	4,313,560.9
2020	1,862,019.3	2,585,458.4	727,632.4	1,116,104.7	4,835,950.1

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Table A5.2 *continued.*

Year	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution from Digital Sectors	Value-Added Contribution within Digital Sectors	Economy-Wide Value-Added Contribution to Digital Sectors' Nondigital Assets	Digital Gross Domestic Product
Singapore					
2000	9,478.5	9,516.3	6,487.6	1,201.4	13,708.5
2007	10,136.1	12,135.4	7,012.8	1,125.5	16,384.1
2010	14,203.8	16,362.1	9,662.5	2,225.7	23,129.1
2013	17,800.4	22,300.5	13,131.0	2,960.9	29,930.8
2016	21,856.7	27,626.6	14,761.8	3,501.6	38,223.1
2019	28,737.7	28,727.1	17,400.8	2,964.7	43,028.9
2020	26,485.1	25,727.0	15,764.2	2,576.2	39,024.1
Taipei, China					
2000	1,002,088.1	878,412.4	684,302.5	141,293.3	1,337,491.2
2007	1,633,482.2	1,467,981.3	1,187,731.0	181,061.8	2,094,794.3
2010	1,821,128.1	1,602,185.4	1,313,006.1	192,167.0	2,302,474.4
2013	1,885,934.6	1,748,908.4	1,440,226.3	213,087.7	2,407,704.3
2016	2,129,709.8	2,007,776.5	1,656,195.3	235,167.9	2,716,458.9
2019	2,809,575.3	2,226,125.0	1,918,623.5	264,023.9	3,381,100.6
2020	2,993,332.0	2,345,891.1	1,977,929.5	309,917.4	3,671,211.0
Thailand					
2000	91,987.7	111,393.1	43,775.0	15,827.3	175,433.0
2007	192,193.4	295,042.7	103,919.3	39,972.5	423,289.3
2010	189,657.9	326,693.0	101,497.0	41,489.3	456,343.2
2013	276,714.7	410,738.7	154,668.5	47,735.2	580,520.0
2016	270,780.5	466,277.0	144,430.3	56,924.6	649,551.8
2019	487,097.8	528,457.7	244,257.3	54,052.9	825,351.0
2020	421,373.5	480,264.1	208,573.9	54,131.9	747,195.6
Viet Nam					
2000	14,241,885.5	16,354,325.6	7,310,881.9	3,465,728.4	26,751,057.6
2007	46,408,085.8	45,300,525.0	30,720,439.2	9,782,182.2	70,770,353.8
2010	91,543,550.0	78,697,681.7	54,916,733.8	15,289,275.5	130,613,773.4
2013	194,542,144.4	139,962,123.6	123,136,702.9	22,779,179.3	234,146,744.3
2016	251,995,497.0	194,418,473.1	169,425,173.1	26,720,409.7	303,709,206.7
2019	409,616,228.7	275,249,079.4	259,014,785.5	26,166,291.2	452,016,813.9
2020	439,154,576.5	285,591,573.7	262,369,760.7	28,800,102.3	491,176,491.8

Sources: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Multiregional Input-Output Database. <https://mrio.adb.online/> (accessed July 2021); and ADB. 2021. *Capturing the Digital Economy: A Proposed Measurement Framework and its Applications*. Special Supplement to Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021. Manila: ADB. <https://www.adb.org/publications/capturing-digital-economy-measurement-framework>.

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Determining the Economic Contribution of Real Estate Activities

6

Using input–output analysis, this special chapter presents a methodology to measure the economic contribution of real estate activities to an economy’s gross domestic product. It considers that such activities are undertaken as two primary components: real estate construction and real estate services. Implementing the methodology using ADB’s Multiregional Input Output Tables, the chapter presents an estimation of the size of the real estate sector for select economies. As the property sector is prone to market fluctuations, an estimation of its economic significance could aid policy formulation that cushions the impacts of any potential slump in real estate activities.

6.1 Background

The real estate sector is often perceived as a significant contributor to an economy’s gross domestic product (GDP) and generally features many interlinkages with other economic sectors. In principle, a sector’s linkages can be understood in terms of its relationships with the rest of the economy through its direct and indirect purchases and sales. Understanding such linkages is crucial to understanding the structure of an economy in the form of an interconnected system of sectors that are directly or indirectly integral to one another.

This understanding can aid governments in creating conducive market conditions for the real estate sector, and for the sectors that have direct or indirect linkages with it. Decisions for the real estate sector that are cognizant of such linkages could potentially stimulate higher growth outcomes for crucial economic parameters such as income, production, and employment, while ensuring optimal allocation of resources (Miller and Lahr 2001).

Owing to the myriad of economic linkages of real estate, the sector’s related activities have significant impact in terms of demand-side effects. Increased economic activity in the real estate sector has direct repercussions for core industrial sectors, such as cement and steel production, real estate management, and technology, to name a few.

Further, in many economies, the real estate sector itself is not only a major employment driver but also supports employment in other sectors through its backward and forward linkages. For example, the direct share of employment in real estate-related construction and services to total employment in 2018 was about

10.9% in India (RBI 2021), 7.8% in the People’s Republic of China (PRC) (NBS 2019), and 6.4% in the Philippines (ADB 2021). Meanwhile, in the United States the share in 2018 was about 4.2% (BLS year) and in Singapore it was 3.3% (ADB 2021).¹

In terms of their macroeconomic effects, property price fluctuations induced by changes in interest rates theoretically affect private consumption and fixed asset investments through personal wealth and balance sheet effects. Consequently, one must not forget the linkages of the real estate sector with the finance sector. Distress in the real estate sector—and the developers’ ability to pay their dues or homeowners’ ability to pay their mortgages—could entail grave consequences for the finance sector, as evidenced by the global financial crisis (GFC) of 2008 (Baily et al. 2008; FCIC 2011).

Triggered by unanticipated shocks in the real estate sector, the GFC not only caused cataclysmic economic losses but also underscored the intertwined nature of financial markets and real estate developments. It proved that, while the rapid escalation of the housing market coupled with an enabling monetary policy may stimulate economic growth, such escalation may result in deep financial crisis. Besides the GFC of 2008, similar market conditions have systematically created housing bubbles in numerous other economies, including Japan in the 1980s and Spain in the 1990s, among others. The positive association between real estate valuation appreciation and equity market valuation appreciation, which was at the heart of the GFC, is consistent with the wealth effects from real estate valuation to equity investment, as capital gains in the equity investment spill over to the real estate sector (Aizenman and Jinjark 2013). To offset the probability of similar future crises, other channels of monetary and fiscal policy that provide households with more liquidity must be explored. Moreover, unconventional measures—such as including owner-occupied housing repayments in consumer price inflation indexes, to better reflect households’ comprehensive cost-of-living scenarios in central banks’ reaction functions—may also be introduced, in addition to adopting a toolkit of macroprudential instruments (IMF 2011).

Besides the setback from the GFC, the global growth of the real estate sector ushered in varying developmental consequences for different economies, especially since the turn of the millennium. For example, the real estate market in India was still in its infancy, largely unorganized and dominated by numerous small players compared to the other Asian and Western markets, until the beginning of the 21st Century (Planning Commission 2002). However, with an ongoing effort toward institutionalization, including the implementation of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act 2016, the Indian real estate market is ripe for investment and development (PWC and ULI 2018). In Japan, the strength of the real estate sector has been established by strong monetary and fiscal policies, driven by growth-oriented strategies, such as corporate tax reforms and stimulation of financial and capital markets (MLITT 2015).

¹ Employment in construction is disaggregated using the same proportions of real estate-related construction. Figures are preliminary and will be revised in future updates to this publication, along with estimates of employment through linkages.

The real estate sector of the PRC has been under scrutiny from both investors and regulators, owing to the intense regulatory pressure on developers' leverage and banks' mortgage exposure, and the consequent contraction in sales and construction activity (Tilton et al. 2021). Estimations for the scale of PRC's real estate sector in (year) ranged from 13% to 30% of the economy's GDP, as reported in the media (*The Economist* 2021). The disparities in these estimations notwithstanding, it cannot be disputed that the real estate sector comprises a significant proportion of GDP, rendering it natural to determine the extent to which a shock in the real estate sector could impact the PRC's economy.

6.2 Defining Real Estate Activities

The estimation process starts by carefully defining what types of activities are considered relevant to real estate. Generally, real estate activities (otherwise known as “the property sector”) are undertaken in two primary components: real estate construction and real estate services.

It should be noted that the broader construction sector conducts a vast number of activities; from site preparation to building construction and completion or demolition. For the purposes of estimating real estate activities, the scope of the construction component includes all types of work except for civil engineering. In particular, construction of highways, roads, bridges, waterways, pipelines, power plants, and others belonging to Central Product Classification version 2.1 (CPC 2.1) group 532 (civil engineering works) are not in scope, since these infrastructure-related activities are primarily driven by policy rather than market events. Activities that are in scope include building structures under CPC 2.1 group 531 (buildings). This group includes residential buildings (CPC 2.1 group 531) for private households as well as for communities, such as retirement homes, workers' hostels, fraternity homes, orphanages, homeless shelters, etc. The scope is also extended to nonresidential buildings (CPC 2.1 group 532) including industrial buildings such as factories, plants, and workshops; commercial buildings such as shopping centers, malls, warehouses, exhibition halls, office buildings, and bank buildings; and other nonresidential buildings such as cinemas, hotels, schools, and hospitals. Other construction and installation services (such as the installation of elevators, electricity wiring, plumbing, and decor) are also included, with the condition that these are mostly relevant to residential and nonresidential buildings.

The second component in the property sector is real estate services. In this context, such services refer to (i) the buying, selling, renting, and operating of self-owned or leased property; and (ii) activities of real estate agents and brokers, intermediation of real estate activities, property management services, property appraisals, and escrow services. While construction activities relate more to the flow of (new) buildings, real estate services relate more to the stock of existing structures (Tilton et al. 2021).

Therefore, both components, while behaving differently, are intricately linked to building assets or real estate properties. Taken together, these two components of real estate construction and the associated management and leasing of those buildings complete the scope of economic activities related to real estate.

6.3 Estimating the Contribution of Real Estate Activities

Now that real estate activities are defined, these definitions may be transcribed as sectoral classifications that identify specific products and sectors to be measured. Once distinguished from the rest of the economy, the measurement approach is to take the “relevant amount” and calculate its relative share to all activities. There are two general ways to arrive at the relevant amount of sector activity related to real estate.

At the narrowest level, the real estate sector’s contribution to an economy may be measured as the total amount the sector adds to the value of its inputs to produce an output. In national accounts statistics, this refers to the real estate sector’s gross value-added, which is also equivalent to the sum of income earned (e.g., wages, profits, and taxes) from engaging in productive activity and returns from the use of fixed assets. Put differently, a value-added measure of the real estate sector is the sum of its output minus all inputs (such as wood and steel) from its upstream suppliers. By excluding these intermediate inputs, the measure narrows down the scope to the production of a single economic activity.

Value-added is, however, a measure of economic production taken from the perspective of the producing sector and not the final product it sells. For example, if one limits the interest to houses, one may argue that the relevant measure should be the value of the dwellings that were sold to households (i.e., the demand perspective). In this perspective, the value of the house includes the value-added not just by the construction component, but also the value-added contributions from all inputs that went into building the house. In effect, the demand for housing is a culmination of all sectors’ value-additions involved in the construction of a dwelling. This demand perspective may be considered as the broader measure of the real estate sector, since it includes all sectors in the construction value chain and not just the construction sector itself. That is, it is the sum of all domestic value-added embodied in the final demand for the real estate activities.

Formally, this demand approach is measured through an input-output table (IOT), which provides a disaggregated view of all the sectors in an economy. A standard view of an IOT shows in the rows the amount of a sector’s output that was used as inputs (z) or as final use (f). Table 6.1 illustrates these flows in a simplified three-sector economy. The final use or demand for each sector is the sum of final consumption expenditure by households and nonprofit institutions serving households (c),

gross capital formation or investments (*i*), government final consumption expenditure (*g*), and exports (*e*). Meanwhile, the columns of each sector *j* detail a sector’s purchases of inputs from domestic sectors (*z*.*j*), foreign supplies (*m*.*j*), and its own value-added (*v**j*). Each sector’s row and column totals (*x*) are equal, which implies that the total amount of its supply (column outputs, *x*′) must be equal to total use of its product (row outputs, *x*).

Table 6.1: Simplified Schematic of an Input-Output Table

	Intermediate Uses (Z)				Final Uses (y)			Gross Output (x′)	
	1	2	3						
Sectors	1	<i>z</i> ₁₁	<i>z</i> ₁₂	<i>z</i> ₁₃	<i>c</i> ₁	<i>i</i> ₁	<i>g</i> ₁	<i>e</i> ₁	<i>x</i> ₁
	2	<i>z</i> ₂₁	<i>z</i> ₂₂	<i>z</i> ₂₃	<i>c</i> ₂	<i>i</i> ₂	<i>g</i> ₂	<i>e</i> ₂	<i>x</i> ₂
	3	<i>z</i> ₃₁	<i>z</i> ₃₂	<i>z</i> ₃₃	<i>c</i> ₃	<i>i</i> ₃	<i>g</i> ₃	<i>e</i> ₃	<i>x</i> ₃
Imports (M)		<i>m</i> ₁	<i>m</i> ₂	<i>m</i> ₃	<i>m</i> _{<i>c</i>}	<i>m</i> _{<i>i</i>}	<i>m</i> _{<i>g</i>}	<i>m</i> ₃	<i>M</i> ₃
Value-added (v)		<i>v</i> ₁	<i>v</i> ₂	<i>v</i> ₃					GDP
Gross output (x′)		<i>x</i> ₁ ′	<i>x</i> ₂ ′	<i>x</i> ₃ ′	C	I	G	E	

C = private consumption expenditure; E = exports; G = government final consumption expenditure; GDP = gross domestic product; I = gross fixed capital formation; X = gross output.

Source: Adapted from R. Miller and P. Blair. 2009. *Input-Output Analysis: Foundations and Extensions* (second edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

From the row perspective, each sector *i*’s output (*x*_{*i*}) may be expressed as:

$$x_i = \sum_j z_{ij} + \sum_k y_{ik}$$

where *k* corresponds to categories of final demand.

Establishing the relationship between domestic inputs and outputs, such that

$a_{ij} = \frac{z_{ij}}{x_j}$ and therefore, $z_{ij} = a_{ij}x_j$, equation above can be transformed as:

$$x_i = \sum_j a_{ij}x_j + \sum_k y_{ik}$$

Expressed in compact matrix notation, the equation above becomes:

$$x = Ax + y$$

Rearranging to form the usual Leontief equation, output (*x*) may be evaluated as the function of total productive requirements and demand levels:

$$x = (I - A)^{-1}y$$

Now, taking the amount of value-added per unit output for all sectors j , one arrives at value-added coefficients v_c :

$$v_{(c)j} = \frac{v_j}{x_j}, \text{ which takes the diagonalized vector form of } \hat{\mathbf{v}}_c = \begin{pmatrix} v_{(c)1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & v_{(c)j} \end{pmatrix}$$

Pre-multiplying the Leontief equation $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{y}$ by $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c$, one yields a $n \times 1$ vector showing value-added contribution of each sector i embodied in the total final demand f . That is,

$$\mathbf{v} = \hat{\mathbf{v}}_c (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{y}$$

For trained readers, since \mathbf{y} includes the final demands for all types of products, the sum of \mathbf{v} would correspond to the total value-added in the economy, or GDP (without the adjustment for taxes less subsidies on products).

Hence, to measure only the total value-added contributions to the final demand for sectors related to real estate, \mathbf{y} in the previous equation is replaced with the subset \mathbf{y}^P , which contains only final demands for real estate construction (mostly residential and nonresidential buildings) and real estate services. The final form of the equation used to evaluate the contribution of real estate activities to the economy is expressed as:

$$\mathbf{v}^P = \hat{\mathbf{v}}_c (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{y}^P$$

The sum of all elements in \mathbf{v}^P represents all domestic sectors' value-added contribution to the final demand for sectors related to real estate.

There are three advantages to this measure. First, as mentioned, this demand-side measure considers not only the contribution of the main producer (i.e., construction and real estate services) but also the upstream domestic sectors whose outputs were embedded in the final product. In the context of a property downturn, this measure will be indicative of the impacts on the connected sectors in the economy. If, say, the housing construction sector is responsible for an overwhelming market share of domestic wood manufacturers, then a crisis affecting dwelling construction is also expected to affect the income of the wood-manufacturing sector. In contrast, the narrow measure looks only at the effects on the housing construction sector itself.

Second, the use of value-added coefficients ensures that the resulting values are free of double-counting. This is consistent with the national accounting framework, which deducts intermediate inputs that were previously produced by other sectors and which may already be counted elsewhere in the economy.

Third, the overall measure is bounded with the GDP figure of the economy. This affords readers to more easily interpret the figures when expressed as a ratio of GDP.

As an added note, value-added v is mathematically equivalent to gross output x minus domestic intermediate inputs z and imports m . This means that, when taking the value-added coefficients v_c , the intermediate inputs both from domestic and foreign sources are discounted in the final figures. Further, by using noncompetitive IOTs, the final demand y should correspond to domestically produced final products and are hence netted out of imported final products. This implies that the equation to calculate value-added contributions are by construction already net of imports.

6.4 Proportions of Real Estate Construction

The calculations in this chapter were made using the ADB Multiregional Input-Output Table (MRIOT) for 2017. Since the sectoral grouping for construction activities in the MRIOT is aggregated for all types (i.e., residential, nonresidential, civil engineering, and other installation), the estimates rely on the use of proportions of real estate construction taken from national accounts statistics. Ideally, the proportion q indicates the share of all residential and commercial building construction activities, excluding any civil engineering activity. Appendix 6.1 provides the detailed product types included in the final demand.

If real estate construction and real estate services are the b^{th} and r^{th} rows, respectively, in the final demand vector \mathbf{y} , then for exposition the relevant final demand for the real estate components is equal to $\mathbf{y}^p = \mathbf{y}\hat{\mathbf{q}}_b + \mathbf{y}\hat{\mathbf{q}}_r$. $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_b$ is a diagonalized vector of proportions, with the appropriate share of real estate construction demand in the b^{th} element and zeroes for products when $i \neq b$. Similarly, $\hat{\mathbf{q}}_r$ is a vector of proportions, with the appropriate share of real estate services demand in the r^{th} element and zeroes for products when $i \neq r$. While proportions of final demand for construction vary by economy, in this study all (or 100%) of real estate services demand is considered in the calculations for all economies. Since the real estate services component is shown separately in the MRIOT, there is no need to apply proportions for this component.

The raw proportions for real estate construction and the sources for their calculations are provided in Table 6.2. The ideal situation for calculating the proportions is when a detailed IOT or supply-use table is available. In such cases, the share of final demand for real estate construction (excluding civil engineering) to the total construction demand is taken. If data are not available, demand is proxied using the data on gross fixed capital formation of dwellings and buildings from the national accounts (Lequiller and Blades 2014). This proxy measure can be generally acceptable,

given that most of the construction component is investment in fixed assets. In a few instances, the amount of construction work disaggregated by type of structure is also used to obtain a proxy for the proportions of real estate construction. Given that not all economies in the MRIOT have adequate detail on construction activity, this limits the calculations to a few Asian economies. Also included are estimates for advanced economies, which are accommodated as a comparator for economies with developed property sectors. In total, estimates are done for 18 economies for single period 2017 as most sampled economies would have the required construction data around this year. In future updates, these estimates will be extended to several periods and economies.

Table 6.2: Real Estate Construction as a Proportion of Total Construction Demand in Select Economies

Economy	Proportion	Source
Canada	64.4%	Gross fixed capital formation by type of asset, 2017, Statistics Canada
China, People's Republic of	71.6%	Final demand for construction, excluding civil engineering (149×149 NIOT), 2017, National Bureau of Statistics, People's Republic of China
France	76.3%	Gross fixed capital in dwellings and buildings other than dwellings, 2017, National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies, France
Germany	86.5%	Gross fixed capital formation in buildings, 2017, Federal Statistical Office of Germany
Hong Kong, China	85.6%	Principal statistics for all establishments in the building, construction and real estate sectors by industry, 2018, Census and Statistics Department, Hong Kong, China
India	59.8%	Output and value-added from Construction, 2017, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, India
Indonesia	66.9%	Final demand for construction except roads, bridges, and ports (18×85 NIOT), 2016, Badan Pusat Statistik, Indonesia
Italy	71.2%	Gross fixed capital formation by asset and by industry, 2017, National Institute of Statistics, Italy
Japan	64.3%	Final demand for construction excluding public construction and civil engineering (10×07 NIOT), 2015, Statistics Bureau of Japan
Korea, Republic of	73.4%	Gross fixed capital formation in residential and nonresidential buildings, 2017, National Accounts, Bank of Korea
Malaysia	68.8%	Principal Statistics of Construction Sector by sub-sector, 2017, Department of Statistics, Malaysia
Philippines	62.7%	Summary statistics for construction establishments, 2017, Philippine Statistics Authority
Singapore	63.1%	Final demand for construction except for civil engineering works (10×05 NIOT), 2017, Singapore Statistics
Spain	87.4%	Gross fixed capital formation by asset and by industry, 2017, Spanish Statistical Office
Taipei, China	65.1%	Final demand for construction except for public works (16×61 NIOT), 2004, National Statistics, Taipei, China
Thailand	69.9%	Principal Statistics by Category of Construction Industry, 2014, National Statistical Office of Thailand
United Kingdom	71.9%	Gross fixed capital formation by product and industry, 2017, Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom
United States	65.0%	Investment in Private and Government Fixed Assets, 2017, Bureau of Economic Analysis, United States

NIOT = national input-output table.

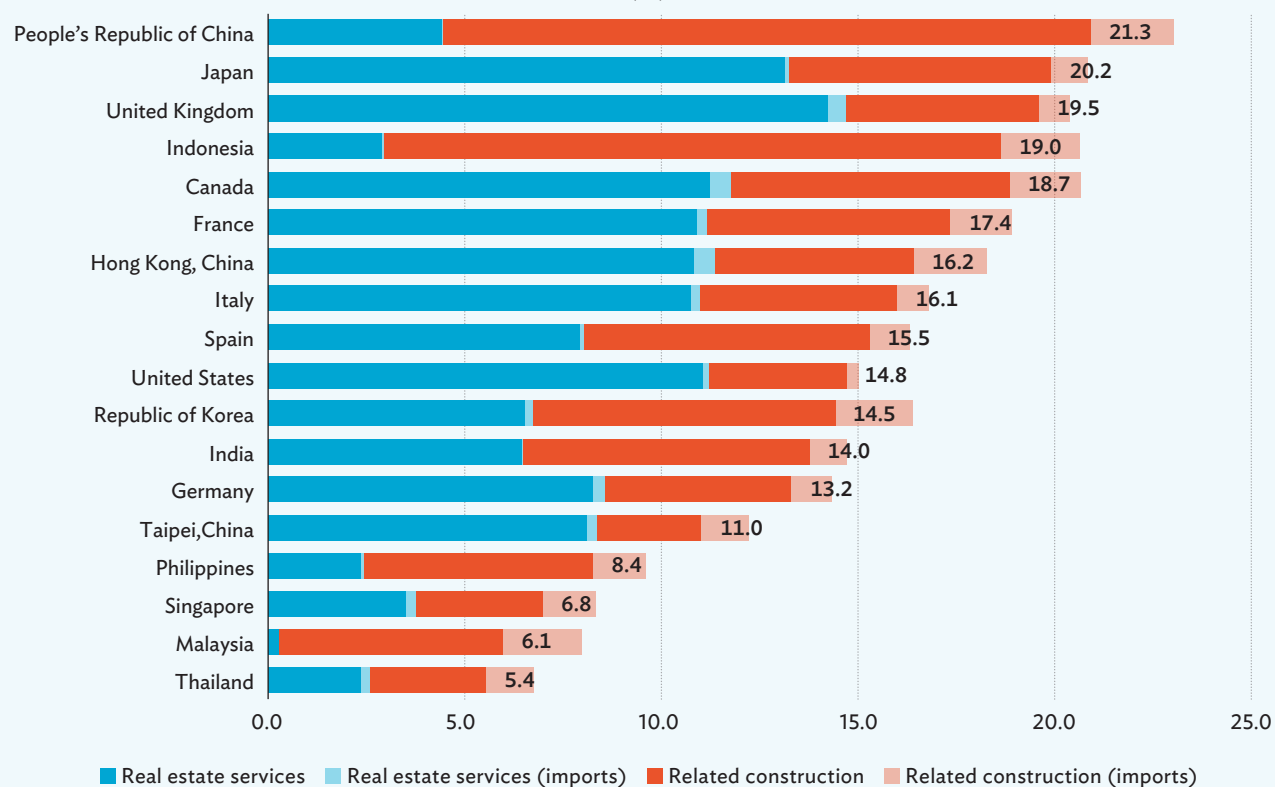
Note: If disaggregated data on construction final demand are unavailable, the closest available data for detailed types of construction are used as proxy (e.g., gross fixed capital formation, gross output, and construction statistics).

Source: Compiled by the Asian Development Bank Input-Output Study Team using data from national statistics offices.

6.5 Economic Contribution of Real Estate-Related Activities

Results from the application of the described methodology ranged from 5.4% (Thailand) to 21.3% (PRC) of the respective GDP of select economies in 2017 (Figure 6.1).² Among the select economies in Asia, Japan and Indonesia followed the PRC with the highest concentration of real estate activities in their overall GDP, at 20.2% and 19.0%, respectively. The contribution of real estate construction was highest in the PRC (16.8%) and Indonesia (16.0%), whereas real estate services were predominant in Japan (13.4%). Thailand had the lowest share of real estate activities to GDP at 5.4%, with around 3% due to construction activities.

Figure 6: Share of Real Estate Activity to Gross Domestic Product in Select Economies, 2017 (%)



R.E = real estate.

Note: Data labels shown (%) refer to domestic value-added embodied in final demand (i.e., excluding imports). "Real estate activity" refers to the sum of economy-wide value-added embodied in the final demand for real estate construction and real estate services. Values are calculated using current price tables in United States dollars.

Source: Calculated using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2017. <https://mrio.adb.org/> (accessed July 2021).

[Click here for figure data](#)

² Results in this publication differ from the previous estimates mentioned in *The Economist* (2021). Appendix 6.2 details the differences of these figures from the previous exercise.

Further disaggregation of real estate activities in the PRC and Indonesia suggests that these economies have shares of construction investments of about 79% and 84%, respectively, of all real estate activities, although the highest figure for this measure was posted by Malaysia at about 95%.

In the developed economies of Canada, France, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States, much of the share of real estate activities in 2017 was attributable to real estate services, owing to increasing interests in property and facilities management. This is typical of major economies, which have recently embarked on digital transformations in their real estate services, particularly through innovations in new tools and technologies (Baum, Saull, and Braesemann 2020). Additionally, the increasing proliferation of property mortgage services providing competitive interest rates and professional support to real estate investors has also contributed to the burgeoning of the real estate services component in these economies (Agnello, Castro, and Sousa 2020; Fuster et al. 2018).

6.6 Limitations and Way Forward

The statistics presented in this chapter could potentially complement financial and macroeconomic statistics used to assess the financial and/or economic soundness of the property sector in any given economy, and to flag any potential issues or risks.

While the primary objective was to demonstrate a methodology for calculating the contribution of the real estate sector to total GDP, there is scope to expand this methodology by analyzing the balance sheets of select economies (and their institutional sectors), the structure of liabilities, monetary policies, and the uptake of these buildings, among others. Such analysis might cover the potential fallout from financial dimensions of owning property assets that are not within the purview of conventional input–output frameworks. Future estimations could be further strengthened through a more robust database, enabling the application of comparative time series statistics across economies.

Appendixes

Appendix 6.1: Definitions of Real Estate Activities

Table A6.1: Types of Activity Included in Real Estate Activities

CPC 2.1	Product Description
A. Real Estate Construction	
53111	One- and two-dwelling residential buildings
53112	Multidwelling residential buildings
53121	Industrial buildings
53122	Commercial buildings
53129	Other nonresidential buildings
54111	General construction services of one- and two-dwelling residential buildings
54112	General construction services of multidwelling residential buildings
54121	General construction services of industrial buildings
54122	General construction services of commercial buildings
54129	General construction services of other nonresidential buildings
54400	Assembly and erection of prefabricated constructions
54310	Demolition services
54320	Site formation and clearance services
54330	Excavating and earthmoving services
54611	Electrical wiring and fitting services
54612	Fire alarm installation services
54613	Burglar alarm system installation services
54614	Residential antenna installation services
54619	Other electrical installation services
54621	Water plumbing services
54622	Drain-laying services
54631	Heating equipment installation services
54632	Ventilation and air-conditioning equipment installation services
54640	Gas fitting installation services
54650	Insulation services
54691	Lift and escalator installation services
87157	Maintenance and repair services of elevators and escalators
54699	Other installation services n.e.c.
54710	Glazing services

continued on next page.

Table A6.1 *continued.*

CPC 2.1	Product Description
54720	Plastering services
54730	Painting services
54740	Floor and wall tiling services
54750	Other floor laying, wall covering and wall papering services
54760	Joinery and carpentry services
54770	Fencing and railing services
54790	Other building completion and finishing services
54511	Pile-driving services
54512	Foundation services
54521	Building framing services
54522	Roof framing services
54530	Roofing and waterproofing services
54540	Concrete services
54550	Structural steel erection services
54560	Masonry services
54570	Scaffolding services
54590	Other special trade construction services
B. Real Estate Services	
72111	Rental or leasing services involving own or leased residential property
72112	Rental or leasing services involving own or leased nonresidential property
72121	Trade services of residential buildings
72122	Trade services of nonresidential buildings
72123	Trade services of time-share properties
72130	Trade services of vacant and subdivided land
72211	Residential property management services on a fee or contract basis except of time-share ownership properties
72212	Nonresidential property management services on a fee or contract basis
72213	Time-share property management services on a fee or contract basis
72221	Residential building sales on a fee or contract basis, except of time-share ownership properties
72222	Nonresidential building sales on a fee or contract basis
72223	Sale of time-share properties on a fee or contract basis
72230	Land sales on a fee or contract basis
72240	Real estate appraisal services on a fee or contract basis

CPC = Central Product Classification; n.e.c. = not elsewhere classified.

Source: Compiled by the Asian Development Bank Input-Output Study Team using United Nations Statistical Division, 2015. Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 2.1.

Appendix 6.2: Review of Other Estimates of the Property Sector in the People's Republic of China

This appendix outlines why ADB estimates of the size of People's Republic of China's property sector differ from the widely cited estimates in Rogoff and Yang (2020). The appendix starts by pointing out how the estimation methods in Rogoff and Yang (2020) differ from standard input-output approaches. It then aligns their estimation methods with standard approaches, using the same data they use. Rogoff and Yang have also published an addendum to their paper (Rogoff and Yang 2021), which makes changes to their data and methodology. This appendix documents those changes. It concludes that the methodologies from both sides are now aligned, only differing in the input-output tables used.

The most-cited figure of the property sector in the People's Republic of China (PRC) is from Rogoff and Yang (2020). As with the estimates in this appendix, the Rogoff and Yang (2020) approach used IOTs to measure the size of the property sector relative to the economy's gross domestic product (GDP). The authors calculated that 28.7% of the PRC's economy comprised real estate construction investments and services in 2016. Excluding the amount of imports, the estimate reduced to about 24.8% of GDP for the same year (Rogoff and Yang 2020). The authors used the PRC's official IOTs for the period 2017 published by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of the People's Republic of China (NBS 2019).

In an attempt to replicate the estimates using the same set of data as Rogoff and Yang (2020), the ADB made three observations on the estimations by the two cited authors.

First, the simple output multipliers used by Rogoff and Yang (2020) were deducted by one.¹ In matrix terms, the total input coefficients matrix was subtracted by an identity matrix. Any demand evaluated using this multiplier would exclude the direct demand itself in the calculation. Thus, only indirect production induced by construction investments were counted. This approach therefore could have the effect of underestimating the total domestic contribution of construction activities.

Second, when using the standard specification ($\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{f}$) of the Leontief model, the resulting impacts were expressed in gross output terms. This approach overstates the impact of construction as gross outputs include double-counted terms (gross output of one sector is the sum of intermediate inputs and gross value-added). Furthermore, the accounting concept of gross output is not bounded within the value of GDP.

¹ This was originally brought to the ADB attention by Simon Cox of *The Economist*.

Third, the contribution of real estate services was not measured in the same way as construction investment. The (a) value-added of real estate services was simply added to the (b) economy-wide contribution of real estate construction (and related purchases of machinery and equipment). Note that the former (a) only refers to the sector's direct contribution to the economy. It does not account for its links to other sectors. Meanwhile the latter includes contributions from linked sectors, such as upstream suppliers. The addition of two different figures derived from two incoherent approaches (one using sector activity, the other using final demand) raises some difficulty in interpreting the final figures.

Due to its unorthodox application of the input-output concepts, the economic contribution of construction investments and real estate as estimated in Rogoff and Yang (2020) may be interpreted as comprising the "indirect" output attributable to construction and installation investments for real estate development, plus the value-added income of the real estate services component. The term "indirect" is used to connote Rogoff and Yang's (2020) deduction of one (1) from the value of the simple output multiplier of construction and machinery sectors.

ADB therefore aligned the approach by Rogoff and Yang (2020) with more conventional input-output methods, used the same data but (i) added back the direct impacts in the total input coefficients, (ii) netted out potential double-counting in gross output via value-added coefficients, and (iii) integrated the final demand for real estate services in the input-output model along with Rogoff and Yang's (2020) demand levels for real estate construction and related equipment purchases.

The ADB implemented the above modifications twice, which resulted in estimates of 15.4% and 13.8% of GDP, with and without imports, respectively. These estimates were cited in *The Economist* (2021). They are lower than the earlier (24.8% to 28.7%) estimates by Rogoff and Yang (2020). The differences between the two estimates are all attributed to the change in methods and not the data. In particular, the ADB study applied the same data series as Rogoff and Yang (2020) for investment in construction and equipment (taken from Table 19-5 of NBS Statistical Yearbook), although the data used was for 2017 not 2016. Therefore, ADB estimates include both residential real estate (i.e., housing) and commercial real estate (i.e., office buildings and the like) to the same extent that Rogoff and Yang (2020) includes them. Modifications to the initial ADB estimates were as follows:

First, the simple output multipliers in the ADB estimates were not deducted by 1 as implemented in Rogoff and Yang (2020). This is to account for both the direct and indirect production associated with the relevant final demands.

Second, the gross outputs were translated into value-added terms by pre-multiplying a diagonalized matrix of value-added coefficients to the Leontief inverse (now corrected for direct and indirect impacts). The resulting $\hat{V}_c L$ matrix

yielded the total value-added contributed by each sector in rows to a unit of final demand for each sector in columns. The column sum of this matrix provided the total economy-wide value-added contributions to a unit of final demand in the corresponding industry. The ADB study then used this matrix of total value-added coefficients to post-multiply a vector of relevant final demands. In matrix form, the model then became $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c \mathbf{L} \mathbf{y}$, where \mathbf{v} is value-added, $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c$ is the diagonalized value-added-to-output ratios, \mathbf{L} is the total input coefficients matrix, and \mathbf{y} is the final demand of interest.

Lastly, the final demand in the model was modified to include all three products deemed relevant in Rogoff and Yang (2020): purchases of construction-related equipment and instruments, construction investments for real estate development, and final demand for real estate services. This was performed so that the contributions of all relevant sectors are evaluated in the same manner, and that the mixing of value-added and gross output terms in the final figure was avoided. The amount of construction investments given in Rogoff and Yang (2020) was only about 36% of the total final use in construction. This figure was honored to emphasize the effects of methodological change.

In a new paper released by Rogoff and Yang (2021), the authors made considerable changes to their approach, which reduced the PRC figure for 2016 from 24.8% (figure without imports published in August 2020) to 21.9% (published in December 2021). While the 2.9-percentage-point difference between the two estimates seems insignificant, the updated figure is a combined result of changes in both methodology and data, especially for final demand. Rogoff and Yang (2021) explained data-related changes but did not elaborate on the impacts of changing the input-output approach.

Some of Rogoff and Yang's (2021) changes push the estimate down; others increase it. The changes that lowered it include: (i) the use of value-added coefficients, (ii) the movement of real estate services from sector activity (or value-added) perspective to final demand perspective, and (iii) the exclusion of related machinery and equipment purchases in the final demand. Value-added coefficients eliminate double-counted terms as it translates output results into value-added terms. Judging from the value-added coefficients of the PRC for 2017, one would expect that implementing this change would be responsible for most of the decline in the figures. The change in the evaluation of real estate services, however, would explain the second-most notable decline in the figure. This is primarily because the position of real estate services is more upstream (i.e., larger output goes to business demand) than downstream. The elimination of final demand for machinery and equipment previously included by Rogoff and Yang (2020) would also reduce the new result, albeit only by a few percentage points.

The above factors all reduce the measured size of the real estate sector. They are however largely offset by other changes that increase its measured size. First, a larger 42×42 input–output table was used by Rogoff and Yang (2021), which adds back the value of linkages (or, more generally, information) lost in the previous 17×17 table due to aggregation bias. Second, in their addendum, Rogoff and Yang no longer deduct 1 from their output multipliers. That is, the direct impacts were now included in the measurement. Third and most importantly, the value of final demand for construction-related investments for real estate development was doubled. Rogoff and Yang (2021) noted that the previous demand levels used to evaluate construction demand differed from fixed capital formation in that the latter does not include housing appreciation and intangible costs. This previous value for construction demand was taken directly from Table 19–5 of the NBS Statistical Yearbook (NBS 2017). In addition, Xu et al. (2015) noted that “the real estate investment does not include the value added of commercial housing sales, i.e. the difference between the sales value and investment cost of commercial housing, which is however included in the GFCF.” Therefore, in the updated calculations, Rogoff and Yang (2021) used the real estate-related proportion of construction in Tilton et al. (2021), which implied an upward revision from the previously derived 36% (as taken from the NBS data) to 72% of construction final demand.

Lastly, the GDP denominator was also changed from the figures in the national accounts series to the figures derived from the NBS input–output table. This did not impact the measured levels, but slightly changed the final ratio presented. Ideally the GDP figures are consistent. In the case of the PRC, the GDP figures from the IOT were higher than the national accounts figures, which therefore enlarged the denominator moderately, thereby producing lower ratios.

The estimates in this special chapter (i.e., 21.3% for the PRC) take a similar approach to Tilton et al. (2021) and to the revised estimates by Rogoff and Yang in their 2021 addendum. The measurement scope in principle is the same. That is, the property sector’s size relative to the economy is equal to direct and indirect value-added contributions embodied in the final demand for real estate services, and all construction demand except for civil engineering. To briefly summarize the changes, Table A6.2 compares methods and data between old and new estimates.

Table A6.2: Differences in the Measurement of the Property Sector in the People's Republic of China

	Rogoff and Yang (2020) ¹	Rogoff and Yang (2021) ²	ADB (as cited in <i>The Economist</i> 2021) ³	ADB (2022) ⁴
Property sector share to GDP (Year), without imports (%)	24.8% (2016)	21.9% (2016); 22.5% (2017); 23.3% (2018); 23.4% (2019); 23.6% (2020)	13.8% (2017)	22.5% (2017); ⁵ 21.3% (2017) ⁶
Input-Output Table used	17-sector 2017 IOT from NBS	42-sector 2017 and 2018 IOT from NBS	17-sector 2017 IOT from NBS	42-sector 2018 IOT from NBS
Construction demand	Construction and installation for real estate development, Table 19-5 of NBS Statistical Yearbook	Construction final demand in the input-output table (72% of total), excluding infrastructure-related	Following Rogoff and Yang (2020); Construction and installation for real estate development, Table 19-5 of NBS Statistical Yearbook	Final demand for building construction, construction and installation, and building decoration, renovation, and other construction services
Proportion of construction final demand included (%)	35.9%	72.0%	35.9%; Following Rogoff and Yang (2020)	71.6%
Machinery and equipment demand	Purchases of machinery and instruments for real estate development, Table 19-5 NBS Statistical Yearbook	None	Purchases of machinery and instruments for real estate development, Table 19-5 NBS Statistical Yearbook; Following Rogoff and Yang (2020)	None
Treatment of real estate services	Value-added of real estate services	Final demand for real estate services	Final demand for real estate services	Final demand for real estate services
Methodology	GDP share of real estate related activity = $(v_{rea} + (\mathbf{L} - \mathbf{D})\mathbf{y}_c) / GDP_{NAS}$	GDP share of real estate related activity = $[\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_d + \mathbf{A}_m)^{-1} (\mathbf{f}_p - \mathbf{A}_m)^{-1} (\mathbf{f}_p - \mathbf{A}_m (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_d)^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{c+r})] / GDP_{IOT}$	GDP share of real estate related activity = $[\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_d)^{-1} \mathbf{y}_{c+r}] / GDP_{NAS}$	GDP share of real estate related activity = $[\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_d)^{-1} \mathbf{y}_p] / GDP_{IOT}$

\mathbf{A}_d = direct input coefficients matrix of domestic inputs; \mathbf{A}_m = direct input coefficients matrix of imported inputs; ADB = Asian Development Bank; GDP = gross domestic product; GDP_{IOT} = derived from input-output tables; GDP_{NAS} = GDP from national accounts statistics; \mathbf{I} = identity matrix; IOT = input-output table; \mathbf{L} = Leontief inverse; NBS = National Bureau of Statistics (People's Republic of China); v_{rea} = value-added of real estate services sector in the national accounts; $\hat{\mathbf{v}}_c$ = diagonalized vector of value-added to output coefficients; \mathbf{y}_c = final demand for construction investments and purchase of machinery and instruments for real estate development obtained from Table 19-5 of NBS Statistical Yearbook; \mathbf{y}_{c+r} = final demand vector containing values for \mathbf{y}_c and real estate services; \mathbf{y}_p = final demand vector containing values for construction (excluding civil engineering) and real estate services.

Notes:

¹ K. Rogoff and Y. Yang. 2020. Peak China Housing. NBER Working Paper Series. No. 27697. Cambridge: National Bureau of Economic Research. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w27697> (Accessed 11 November 2021).

² K. Rogoff and Y. Yang. 2021. The Size of China's Real Estate Sector. Scholars at Harvard. 21 December. https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/rogoff/files/the_size_of_chinas_real_estate_sector_december_21_2021.pdf.

³ As cited in *The Economist*. 2021. Measuring the Universe's Most Important Sector. 27 November.

⁴ Estimates made by the Asian Development Bank Input-Output Study Team.

⁵ Using NBS 42-sector input-output for 2017.

⁶ Using ADB Multiregional Input-Output Table for 2017.

Source: Compiled by the Asian Development Bank Input-Output Study Team.

To further illustrate the differences, the previous Rogoff and Yang (2020) estimate for 2016 (which was about 24.8% of the PRC's GDP) was first replicated using the same approach, national input-output table (NIOT), and NBS yearbook data for 2017 (Figure A6.1). This ensured that the NBS data on real estate investments were consistent with the period represented in the NIOT. In 2017, Rogoff and Yang's (2020) methodology and data would result in a ratio of 23.7% (Figure A6.1, second bar).

Thereafter, the same methodology and data were replicated, but using the larger 42×42 input–output matrix of the NBS. The change in result between the 17-sector and 42-sector NIOT is a measure of the aggregation bias in the data. The resulting figure indicates that the use of a larger input–output matrix will revise the estimates upward by 0.5 percentage points from the previous number (Figure A6.1, third bar).

The fourth bar in Figure A6.1 indicates the change in Rogoff and Yang’s approach for accounting real estate services. Previously, real estate services’ value-added from the NBS yearbook was added to final demand for relevant construction. In the new approach, services are now evaluated as final demand. Note that this is one of three main observations considered in the initial ADB estimate. Since real estate services are relatively positioned upstream, most of their outputs are consumed by other businesses, and less by final consumers. Therefore, when real estate services were moved to the final demand side from value-added, the overall share of real estate-related activity went down by about 3.7 percentage points.

Value-added coefficients were also adopted in the new approach of Rogoff and Yang (2021), which is corollary to the issue of double-counting observed by the ADB study. The effect of this change in methodology is isolated in the fifth bar from the left of Figure A6.1. This was calculated by retaining previously discussed changes, but only changing the model specification so that value-added coefficients were used. This change in method exhibited the largest effect on the results, especially considering the low value-added ratios observed in several sectors of the PRC.

Rogoff and Yang (2021) also seemed to apply the Leontief inverse without deducting 1 from the output multipliers, as originally performed in their 2020 paper. This change increased the results upward by 6.5 percentage points in the sixth bar of Figure A6.1. This considerably high difference corresponds to the returned direct value-added attributed to the final demand for real estate construction and purchases of machinery and equipment.

At this point, all major ADB observations were already accounted for in the results, which netted to about 14.0%. This is slightly higher than the replication of the ADB estimate of 13.8% since the old estimates are using the 17×17 table instead of the 42×42 input–output matrix, in keeping with Rogoff and Yang (2020).

Another information gain from the 42×42 IOT was the availability of a detailed imports matrix. In the previous Rogoff and Yang (2020) paper, the imports were deducted from the results by using the ratio of imports to the total use by product. This approach implicitly assumed that the respective shares of import and domestically sourced products were the same for all users for each type of product. The use of the detailed imports matrix eliminated the need for such an assumption. This imports matrix was not available for the 17×17 table, but was available for the 42×42 table used in the revised estimates. The impact of using this disaggregated

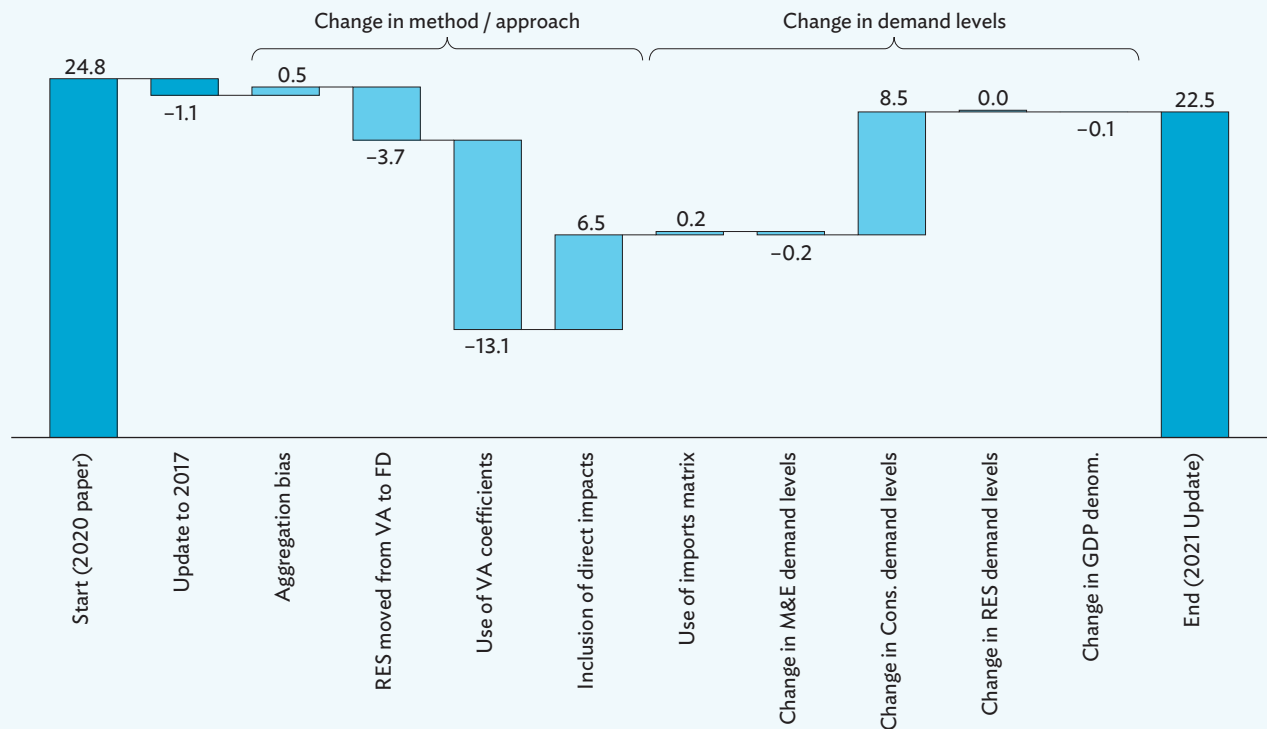
information on imports is shown in the seventh bar of Figure A6.1, which slightly changed the results upward by 0.2 percentage points from the previous estimate.

The succeeding eighth to 10th bars of Figure 6A.1 detail the impacts from the change in demand composition and levels. First, purchases of machinery and equipment for real estate development were no longer counted in the final demand in the 2021 paper. This led the final ratio to decrease by 0.2 percentage points from the previous estimate (bar 8). Second, the final demand for real estate construction was revised, citing that the previous figure used was not in congruence with the concept of gross fixed capital formation, as discussed in Xu et al. (2015). Rogoff and Yang (2021) instead used the final demand for construction multiplied by the proportion of 72% to deduct civil engineering construction following Tilton et al. (2021). As previously mentioned, the new amount was double the previous estimate in Table 19-5 of the Statistical Yearbook (NBS 2017). Hence, this change considerably enlarged the final ratio again by 8.5 percentage points (bar 9).

The 10th bar of Figure A6.1 documents the impact of choosing IOT-based estimates of GDP as denominators in lieu of the previously used GDP estimates from national accounts statistics in the NBS yearbook. The difference in those estimates resulted in a marginal difference of 0.1 percentage points in the results (bar 10).

Collectively, these changes in the method, input-output information, and demand levels resulted in the final figure of 22.5% (bar 11), which is exactly the estimate of Rogoff and Yang (2021, pp. 5) for 2017. The new methodology is mathematically aligned with the previous ADB estimate. This exercise, however, revealed that the results are sensitive to the proportions and amount of construction final demand evaluated. Hence, a precise definition of in-scope construction and real estate services demand should be carefully described in the estimation process. In the main, the measurement objective remains the same, and that real estate activity is defined as the total amount of domestic value-added embodied in the demand for real estate services and construction of dwellings and nonresidential buildings.

Figure A6.1: Change in Share of Real Estate Activities to Total Gross Domestic Product for 2017, Comparing 2020 and 2021 Methodologies (%)



Cons = construction; FD = final demand; GDP = gross domestic product; M&E = machinery and equipment; RES = real estate services; VA = (gross) value-added.

Sources: Calculations by the Asian Development Bank Input–Output Study Team using data from the National Bureau of Statistics, People’s Republic of China, and estimation approaches by Rogoff and Yang (2020; 2021); K. Rogoff and Y. Yang. 2021. The Size of China’s Real Estate Sector. *Scholars at Harvard*. 21 December. https://scholar.harvard.edu/files/rogoff/files/the_size_of_chinas_real_estate_sector_december_21_2021.pdf; and K. Rogoff and Y. Yang. 2020. Peak China Housing. *NBER Working Paper Series*. No. 27697. Cambridge: National Bureau of Economic Research. <http://www.nber.org/papers/w27697>.

[Click here for figure data](#)

In conclusion, the estimates from Rogoff and Yang (2020; 2021), while showing close results, had substantive differences in terms of methodology and data. Notable among the revisions were the use of value-added coefficients and changes in the demand levels for construction. Meanwhile, the differences in ADB estimates, at least for the PRC, were explained by the change in demand levels for in-scope construction activity. As of writing, these seemingly different estimation processes are now aligned in terms of input–output methodology. For cross-economy comparison, this publication used the ADB Multiregional Input–Output Tables for its estimates of property sector shares to the economy.

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This chapter presents a high-level overview of economic indicators for each of the 25 economies of Asia and the Pacific covered in the ADB Multiregional Input-Output database. The profiles are intended to provide users with easily accessible information on the trends, structure, and linkages of domestic and international trade-related activities of each economy. The full dataset for these analyses can be downloaded from the publication's web page.

7.1 How to Read the Economy Profiles

1 Bangladesh South Asia

2 Basic Economic Indicators

Economic Aggregates (\$ million)	2000	2007	2010	2013	2016	2019	2020
Value-added at basic price	43,871	75,987	106,116	142,056	203,014	279,759	307,217
Gross output	73,355	130,220	184,902	254,976	364,245	513,497	566,584
Total intermediate inputs	28,840	52,654	76,647	109,875	156,860	222,428	252,824
Taxes less subsidies on products	645	1,578	2,139	3,095	4,472	6,310	6,544
International transport margins	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CI/FOB adjustment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Direct purchases abroad by residents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Purchases by nonresidents on the domestic territory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Household final consumption expenditure	37,132	50,719	70,226	91,443	125,716	182,379	200,711
Final consumption expenditure by NPISHs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Government final consumption expenditure	2,076	4,163	5,607	7,644	12,619	18,392	20,059
Gross fixed capital formation	8,770	17,337	24,811	34,228	54,098	81,335	90,699
Changes in inventories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total final demand	42,558	72,120	100,644	133,316	192,431	282,006	311,478
Exports	5,435	13,623	18,349	29,992	39,682	46,131	44,090
Imports	7,951	18,360	24,929	40,939	45,647	64,310	63,552

4 South Asia

2 Domestic Linkages

Indicator and Top 3 Sectors, 2020	2000	2007	2010	2013	2016	2019	2020
Simple value-added multiplier							
Real estate	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.98
Retail trade	0.98	0.98	0.99	0.98	0.98	0.98	0.98
Sale of motor vehicles	0.99	0.97	0.97	0.97	0.98	0.97	0.97
Type I value-added multiplier							
Refined fuels	3.17	4.00	4.10	3.99	3.88	4.18	4.27
Rubber and leather	3.87	3.94	3.83	3.67	3.93	3.74	3.88
Food and beverages	3.28	3.39	3.38	3.32	3.32	3.34	3.57
Direct backward linkage							
Refined fuels	0.64	0.68	0.69	0.67	0.63	0.67	0.68
Food and beverages	0.65	0.66	0.66	0.64	0.66	0.63	0.66
Hotels and restaurants	0.60	0.61	0.65	0.61	0.63	0.61	0.62
Complete hypothetical extraction (backward)							
Refined fuels	1.02	1.05	1.03	1.03	1.01	1.08	1.02
Air transport	1.84	1.82	1.85	1.81	1.90	1.80	1.94
Hotels and restaurants	1.86	1.86	1.93	1.85	1.91	1.80	1.92

5 South Asia

2 International Linkages

Indicator and Top 3 Sectors, 2020	2000	2007	2010	2013	2016	2019	2020
Self-sufficiency ratio							
Textiles	1.71	1.94	1.96	1.84	1.86	1.64	1.53
Business activities, NEC	0.98	1.11	1.12	1.11	1.10	1.44	1.53
Leather	1.09	1.53	1.22	1.68	1.88	1.23	1.21
Import-to-input ratio							
Metals	0.14	0.17	0.16	0.19	0.14	0.26	0.24
Paper	0.12	0.14	0.14	0.16	0.15	0.24	0.21
Air transport	0.17	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.19	0.23	0.21
Export-to-output ratio							
Textiles	0.49	0.55	0.57	0.55	0.57	0.51	0.46
Air transport	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.35	0.41
Business activities, NEC	0.00	0.10	0.12	0.11	0.10	0.31	0.35
Domestic inputs share to output							
Refined fuels	0.64	0.68	0.69	0.67	0.63	0.67	0.68
Food and beverages	0.65	0.65	0.66	0.64	0.66	0.63	0.66
Hotels and restaurants	0.60	0.61	0.65	0.61	0.63	0.61	0.62

1 The **name of the economy** and its **subregional grouping** are indicated in this section of each profile. The profiles are presented in alphabetical order and cover the following ADB member economies: Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Fiji; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Kazakhstan; the Republic of Korea; the Kyrgyz Republic; the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia, Maldives; Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; the People's Republic of China; the Philippines; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Taipei, China; Thailand; and Viet Nam.

2 The **major indicators** presented in tabular form are indicated in the top right corner of each table. These tables cover basic economic indicators, domestic multipliers and linkages, and international linkages for each economy.

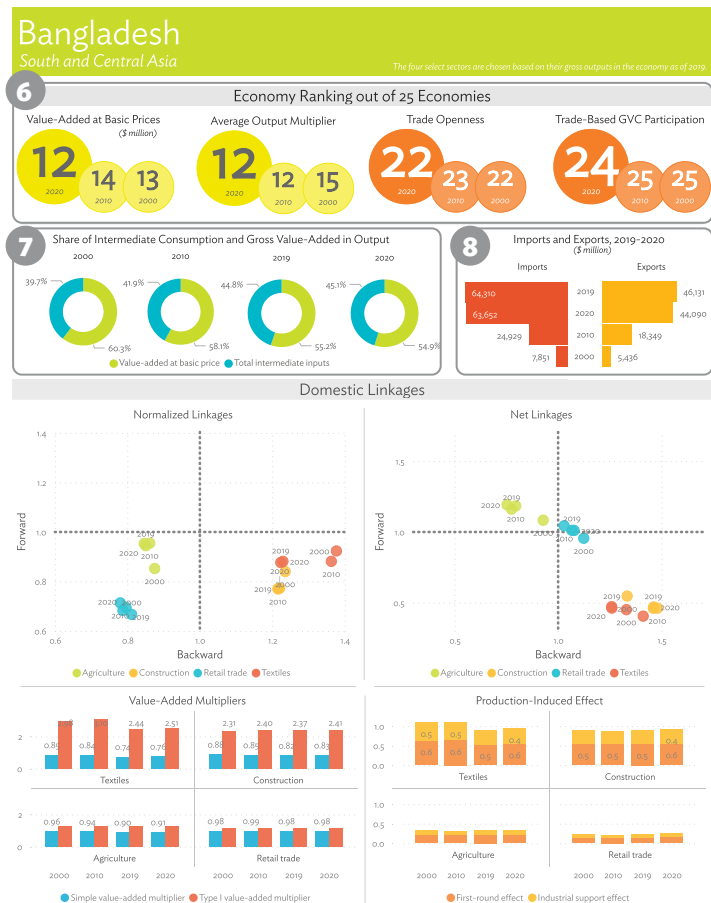
3 The **Basic Economic Indicators** table contains main aggregates commonly compiled in national accounts statistics, valued in current million United States (US) dollars. While based on official national accounts statistics, note that these values may deviate from published data due to rebasing, levels of sectoral aggregation and classification, data confrontation, and rebalancing, among other factors.

- 4 The **Domestic Linkages** table shows the various indexes of linkages and multipliers among domestic sectors and their corresponding multipliers derived from national input–output tables. The sectors shown refer to the top three sectors with the highest values based on the corresponding indices for 2020. The complete description of each sector can be found in Table 7.1.
- 5 The **International Linkages** table consists of the analytical indicators relevant to each economy’s international trade activity. This section shows the top three sectors with the largest value based on the respective indicator for 2020. The complete description of each sector can be found in Table 7.1.

Each economy profile also provides a visual representation of select input–output indicators, dividing these into three sections that correspond to the tabular format.

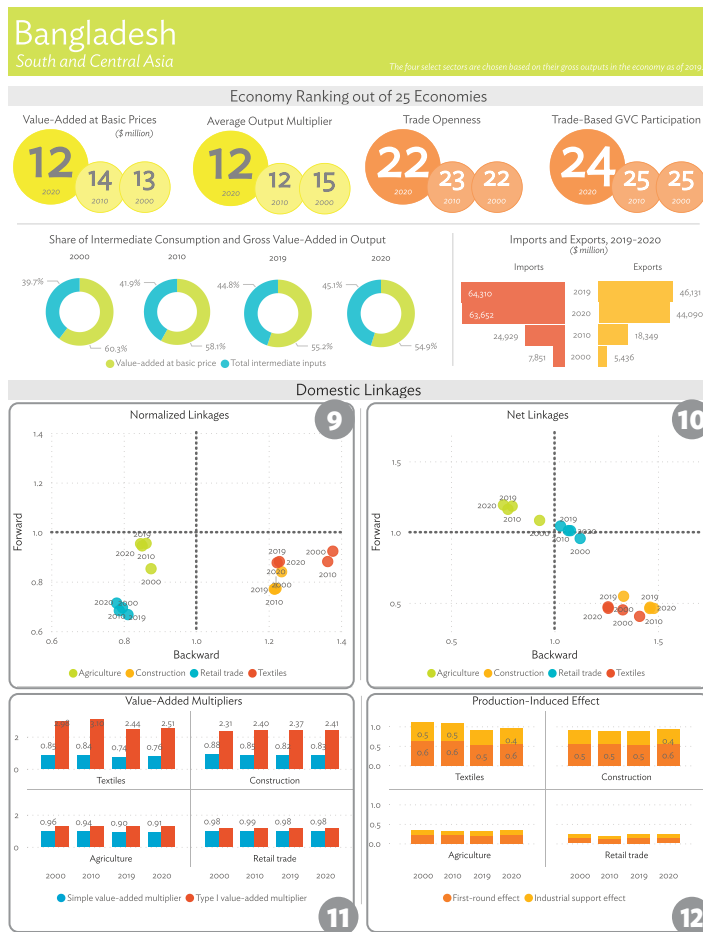
7.2 Economy Rankings

- 6 This subsection shows the rankings of each economy for 2019 and 2020, in the context of the other 24 economies from across Asia and the Pacific. Five core economic indicators are presented: gross domestic product, average output multiplier, trade openness, trade-based global value chain (GVC) participation rate, and export diversification. The average output multipliers are calculated as the arithmetic average across all 35 sectors’ output multipliers.
- 7 This subsection visualizes key economic aggregates derived from the input–output tables. Specifically, these are the respective economy-wide shares of intermediate consumption at purchasers’ prices and gross value-added at basic prices to the gross output for 2019 and 2020 in the production account.
- 8 This subsection summarizes the economy’s trade levels as reported in the input–output tables under the expenditure account. Both imports and exports are shown in gross terms at current million US dollars.



7.3 Domestic Linkages

- 9** This subsection visualizes the normalized forward and backward linkages of four select sectors, based on the key sector analysis described in Miller and Blair (2009). For each economy, the linkages are only shown for sectors with the highest gross outputs in 2019. Sectors that exhibit normalized linkages higher than 1 are considered as having “strong” or higher-than-average dependencies on other domestic sectors.
- 10** This subsection outlines the net forward and backward linkages of four select sectors, based on the key sector analysis described in Oosterhaven (2019). For each economy, the linkages are only shown for sectors with the highest gross outputs in 2019. Compared to normalized linkages, net linkages are adjusted for the sector’s relative size in the economy.
- 11** This subsection shows the simple and type I value-added multipliers of select sectors for 2000, 2010, 2019, and 2020. Simple value-added multipliers quantify the total value-added (or income) accrued in the economy resulting from the sector’s unit increase in final demand. Type I value-added multipliers refer to the ratio of total value-added accrued to the initial value-added effect of a unit change in the sector’s final demand.
- 12** This subsection displays the production-induced effects, a subset of simple output multipliers, for select sectors for 2000, 2010, 2019, and 2020. Each bar represents the extra output required (that is, the output required other than the value of demand itself) for every unit change in the demand for the corresponding sector’s product. Production-induced effects can be further presented as a sum of first-round and industrial support effects. First-round effects refer to the direct inputs required by the sector to produce each one-dollar unit of its output. Industrial support effects sum the round-by-round production effects to fulfill these direct inputs from the rest of the economy.



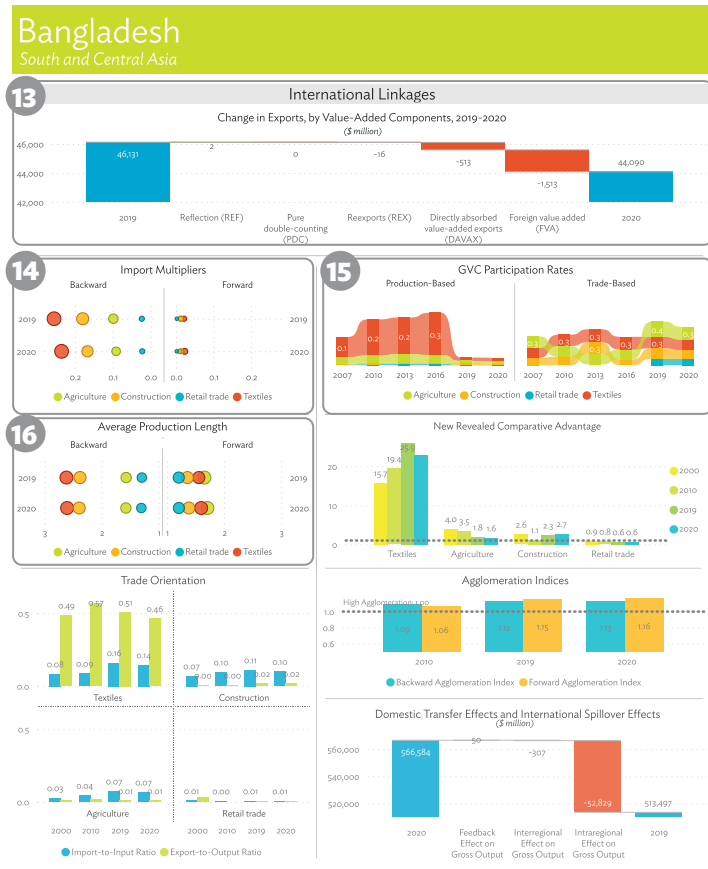
7.4 International Linkages

13 The subsection presents the indicators related to international linkages for 2019 and 2020. This subsection analyzes the change in the economy's exports from 2019 to 2020 by showing changes in the economy's individual components. Exports are decomposed based on the method by Borin and Mancini (2019). Values are shown in current million US dollars.

14 This subsection presents import multipliers or leakages. For backward import multipliers, sectors farthest to the left exhibit larger dependence on foreign sectors for inputs. For forward import multipliers, sectors farthest to the right depict larger dependence on foreign sectors for demand for its products. The size of each dot reflects the values of import multipliers.

15 This subsection depicts movements in the GVC participation rates of select sectors. Sectors that rate higher are stacked on top of sectors with lower participation rates. Taller data points represent larger participation rates. Trade-based participation rates are based on the terminology by Borin and Mancini (2019), while production-based participation rates are adapted from Wang et al. (2017a).

16 This subsection visualizes average production lengths (APLs) of select sectors for 2019 and 2020. The APLs are calculated using the method of Wang et al. (2017b). For backward APL, final products of sectors farthest to the left undergo longer upstream production stages compared to other sectors in the chart. For forward APL, rightmost sectors produce goods and services that undergo longer production stages before reaching their final use.



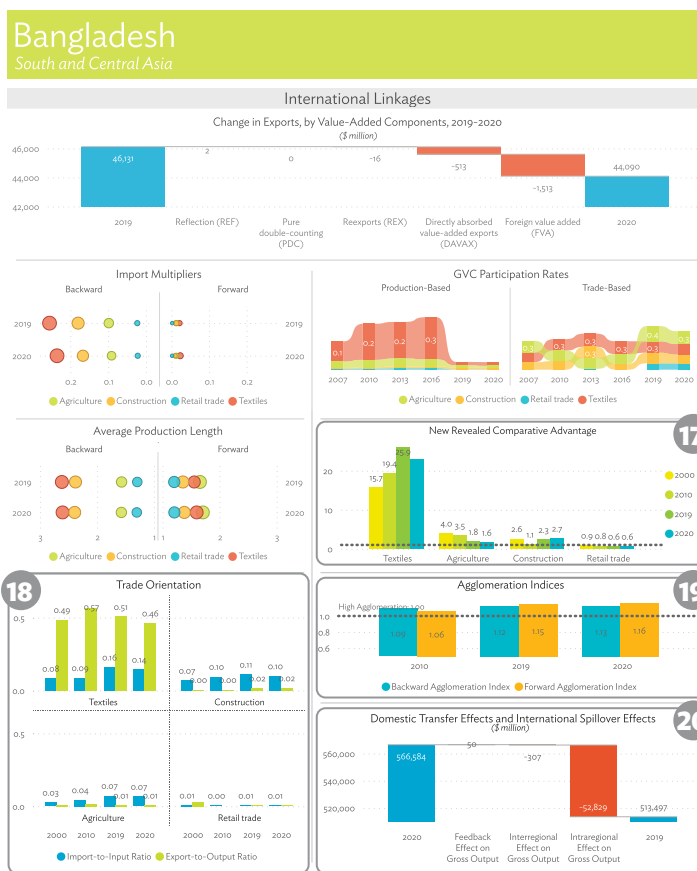
GVC = global value chain; NEC = not elsewhere classified. Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.org/> (accessed July 2021).

17 This subsection presents new revealed comparative advantages based on value-added exports for select sectors for 2000, 2010, 2019, and 2020. Sectors whose index for new revealed comparative advantage exceeds 1 are said to have specialization in this export activity (that is, those sectors exhibit comparative advantage compared to the world average).

18 This subsection shows the trade orientation of the economy's four select sectors for 2000, 2010, 2019, and 2020. Two types of trade are distinguished. Export-to-output ratios suggest a sector's degree of sales dependence to international markets. Import-to-input ratios indicate a sector's degree of supply dependence from foreign producers.

19 This subsection visualizes the domestic agglomeration indices at the aggregate economy-level for 2010, 2019, and 2020. These indices reflect the sourcing (backward) and supply (forward) decisions of sectors in the economy. Values larger than 1 indicate that domestic sectors transact more with other domestic sectors than foreign counterparts.

20 This subsection decomposes the changes in output from 2019 to 2020, based on intraregional (or domestic) transfer effects (M1), interregional effects (M2), and feedback effects (M3). The values are presented in current million US dollars.



GVC = global value chain; NEC = not elsewhere classified. Source: Calculations using the Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Table. <https://mrio.adb.org/> (accessed July 2021).

Individual economy profiles can be downloaded through the following links:

East Asia

[Hong Kong, China](#)
[Japan](#)
[Mongolia](#)
[People's Republic of China](#)
[Republic of Korea](#)
[Taipei, China](#)

South and Central Asia

[Bangladesh](#)
[Bhutan](#)
[India](#)
[Kazakhstan](#)
[Kyrgyz Republic](#)
[Maldives](#)
[Nepal](#)
[Pakistan](#)
[Sri Lanka](#)

Southeast Asia and the Pacific

[Brunei Darussalam](#)
[Cambodia](#)
[Fiji](#)
[Indonesia](#)
[Lao People's Democratic Republic](#)
[Malaysia](#)
[Philippines](#)
[Singapore](#)
[Thailand](#)
[Viet Nam](#)

Table 7.1: Sector Title Abbreviations

Sector Description	Short title
Agriculture, hunting, forestry, and fishing	Agriculture
Mining and quarrying	Mining
Food, beverages, and tobacco	Food and beverages
Textiles and textile products	Textiles
Leather, leather products, and footwear	Leather
Wood and products of wood and cork	Wood
Pulp, paper, paper products, printing, and publishing	Paper
Coke, refined petroleum, and nuclear fuel	Refined fuels
Chemicals and chemical products	Chemicals
Rubber and plastics	Rubber and plastics
Other nonmetallic minerals	Minerals, nec
Basic metals and fabricated metal	Metals
Machinery, nec	Machinery, nec
Electrical and optical equipment	Electricals
Transport equipment	Transport equipment
Manufacturing, nec; recycling	Manufacturing, nec
Electricity, gas, and water supply	Utilities
Construction	Construction
Sale, maintenance, and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; retail sale of fuel	Sale of motor vehicles
Wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	Wholesale trade
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; repair of household goods	Retail trade
Hotels and restaurants	Hotels and restaurants
Inland transport	Inland transport
Water transport	Water transport
Air transport	Air transport
Other supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies	Transport activities, nec
Post and telecommunications	Telecommunications
Financial intermediation	Finance
Real estate activities	Real estate
Renting of M&Eq and other business activities	Business activities, nec
Public administration and defense; compulsory social security	Public administration
Education	Education
Health and social work	Health and social work
Other community, social, and personal services	Personal services, nec
Private households with employed persons	Private households

M&Eq = machinery and equipment, nec = not elsewhere classified.

Source: Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input-Output Database Team.

References

- A. Borin and M. Mancini. 2019. Measuring What Matters in Global Value Chains and Value-Added Trade. *Policy Research Working Paper*. No. 8804. Washington, DC: World Bank.
- R. Miller and P. Blair. 2009. *Input–Output Analysis: Foundations and Extensions*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- J. Oosterhaven. 2019. *Rethinking Input–Output Analysis: A Spatial Perspective*. SpringerBriefs in Regional Science. Springer, Cham.
- Z. Wang, S. J. Wei, X. Yu, and K. Zhu. 2017a. Measures of Participation in Global Value Chains and Global Business Cycles. *NBER Working Paper*. No. 23222. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Z. Wang, S. Wei, X. Yu, and K. Zhu. 2017b. Characterizing Global Value Chains: Production Length and Upstreamness. *NBER Working Paper*. No. 23261. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.

This chapter provides an overview of the methodologies implemented throughout the publication, beginning with the structure of multiregional input-output tables. The technical derivations of each indicator are briefly documented to serve as guide for users and researchers.

8.1 Input–Output Tables

A traditional input–output framework analyzes the interdependence of sectors in an economy by looking at the goods and services they produce (outputs) and consume (inputs) in the process of producing their own output.

An economy with N sectors has an input–output table (IOT) comprised of four major parts (Table 8.1). The “intermediate uses” matrix Z illustrates the volume of goods and services consumed by sector j that are produced by sector i . Adding imports and value-added of sector j produces the total inputs x_j for the sector.

Meanwhile, the “final uses” section contains information on consumption of households (y_{i1}), nonprofit organizations and institutions serving households (y_{i2}), government (y_{i3}), gross fixed capital formation (y_{i4}), changes in inventories (y_{i5}), and exports (e_i) of sector i . Imports consumed as final products are denoted as (y_{mj}).

Table 8.1: Basic Structure of a National Input–Output Table

		Intermediate Uses				Final Uses						Gross Output
		Sector 1	Sector 2	...	Sector N	Households	NPISHs	Government	GFCF	CII	Export	
Domestic	1	Z_{11}	Z_{12}	...	Z_{1N}	y_{11}	y_{12}	y	y_{14}	y_{15}	e_1	x_1
	2	Z_{21}	Z_{22}	...	Z_{2N}	y_{21}	y_{22}	y_{23}	y_{24}	y_{24}	e_2	x_2

	N	Z_{N1}	Z_{N1}	...	Z_{N1}	y_{N1}	y_{N2}	y_{N3}	y_{N3}	y_{N4}	y_{N4}	e_N
Imports		m_1	m_2	...	m_N	m_{Y1}	m_{Y2}	m_{Y3}	m_{Y3}	m_{Y4}		
Value-added		v_1	v_2	...	v_N							
Total inputs		x_1	x_2	...	x_N							

CII = changes in inventories and acquisitions less disposal of valuables; Households = final consumption expenditure of households; government = government final consumption expenditure; NPISHs = final consumption expenditure of nonprofit institutions serving households; GFCF = gross fixed capital formation.

Source: Asian Development Bank Multiregional Input–Output Database Team.

The multiregional input–output table (MRIOT) retains the structure of the traditional IOT depicted in Table 8.1, but expands row and column dimensions to include information on G economies. Thus, the intermediate uses matrix Z expands to a $GN \times GN$ matrix. Meanwhile, the final uses matrix Y includes the same components as a typical IOT, but excludes the export column in Table 8.1. Thus, the final uses matrix becomes $GN \times 5G$ matrix. Value-added, total inputs, and gross output vectors expand to become a $GN \times 1$ vector.

8.2 Core Concepts in Input–Output Analysis

Any input–output framework starts with the core concepts from an economy’s national accounts. At the helm is gross domestic product (GDP), which measures the values of final goods and services produced within an economy over a given period (European Commission 2008). Different estimation approaches of GDP make use of the following concepts:

- **Exports and imports** (e & m). Goods and services that leave an economy are referred to as exports (e), while those that enter an economy from an external source are defined as imports (m).
- **Total final demand** (Y) includes the components of domestic demand and net exports, which is the difference between exports and imports. This is comprised of household final consumption expenditure, final consumption expenditure by nonprofit institutions serving households (NPISHs), government final consumption expenditure, gross fixed capital formation, and changes in inventories.
- **Intermediate consumption** (Z) describes the value of inputs that go into a given product or service (Lequiller and Blades 2014). These include raw materials, components, partly manufactured goods, and other services used in production. This can be disaggregated into domestic inputs, which refers to domestically sourced intermediates, and foreign inputs, which refers to externally sourced intermediates (UN 2018).
- **Gross value-added** (GVA) describes the additional contribution by an individual, producer, or sector, to the total GDP. This is derived by subtracting intermediate consumption from the total gross output. Alternatively, the GVA can be calculated as the sum of the following: taxes less subsidies on products, cost-insurance-freight (CIF) and/or free-on-board (FOB) adjustment, direct purchases abroad by residents, purchases on the domestic territory by nonresidents, value-added at basic price, and international transport margins (UN 2018; European Commission 2008).

- **Gross output** (\hat{x}) refers to the total output required to satisfy final demand. This is obtained by taking the sum of intermediate consumption and GVA. The gross output for sector j is denoted as x_j . In the standard IOT analysis, gross output equals gross input.

Most analyses on national accounts and input-output analysis revolve around the composition, trends, and changes of these core concepts. Going further, these concepts give rise to five sets of matrixes that form the basis for several indicators in input-output analysis and global value chain (GVC) analysis. These matrixes are defined as follows:

- **The technical coefficients matrix** (A) describes the share of costs for goods, services, and primary inputs to gross output. This is calculated by dividing every element of Z with the corresponding sectoral output. Mathematically, $A = Z\hat{x}^{-1}$.¹
- **The Leontief inverse matrix** (B), otherwise known as the total requirements matrix, describes how much additional output is needed to satisfy the increase in final demand in an economy sector (Miller and Blair 2009). It is derived as follows: $B = (I - A)^{-1}$, where I is the identity matrix.
- **The output coefficients matrix** (O), otherwise known as the allocation coefficients matrix, illustrates how output in sector j is allocated across sectors. To calculate, each row of the intermediate consumption matrix Z is divided by the gross output corresponding to that row. Mathematically, $O = \hat{x}^{-1}Z$.
- **The Ghosh matrix** (G) presents an alternative to the Leontief inverse. Instead of looking at what leaves the intersectoral system, the Ghosh matrix describes how much primary inputs goes into intersectoral production (Miller and Blair 2009). Mathematically, the Ghosh matrix is defined as $B = (I - O)^{-1}$.
- **The VBY matrix** serves as the basis for many indicators associated with GVCs. Each element in the VBY matrix describes the direct and indirect value-added from an economy-sector (source) that is embodied in the final goods or services of another economy-sector (Wang et al. 2017b). It is calculated as $VBY = \hat{V} \times B \times \hat{Y}$, where \hat{V} is a diagonal matrix whose diagonal entry $v_j = va_j/x_j$ refers to the value-added (va_j) per unit of output in sector j , and \hat{Y} is a diagonal matrix whose diagonal elements correspond to the elements in the final use matrix, Y .

¹ For the rest of the text, a matrix denoted with a hat, i.e., \hat{x} , represents a diagonal matrix whose diagonal elements correspond to the elements of its source vector. Thus, $x_{N \times 1}$ becomes $\hat{x}_{N \times N}$.

Thus, any input–output structure can be represented mathematically as a system of linear equations:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= Zi + Yi \\ &= Ax + Yi \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where i is a vector of ones.

In general, the concepts discussed previously will serve as the basis for the other indicators discussed in the remainder of this chapter.

8.3 Multipliers and Linkages

Multipliers examine how exogenous changes in the system translate to changes in macroeconomic variables of interest. Exogenous changes are typically assumed to take the form of changes in final demand, implying a demand-driven input-output model. Macroeconomic variables determined in the system include output and income, and may be expanded to include employment and value-added. (Miller and Blair 2009).

Output multipliers represent the basic structure for multipliers. Using Equation 1, output is related to final demand using the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= (I - A)^{-1}Y \\ &= BY \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Taking the column sum of the Leontief inverse gives the simple output multiplier for sector j in economy r . Mathematically, this is denoted as

$$mo_{(j,r)} = \sum_{i=1}^N b_{(i,j,r)} \quad (3)$$

close to the concept of multipliers are linkages. This takes advantage of the structure of IOTs to highlight interconnectedness across economies and sectors. Specifically, it maps how an exogenous change in one economy-sector affects other economy-sectors. Backward linkages represent how a change in output of one sector affects the input requirements from other sectors. Simply put, it represents the relationship of a sector with its suppliers. The backward linkage of sector j in economy r equals the simple output multiplier, that is,

$$bl_{(j,r)} = \sum_{i=1}^N b_{(i,j,r)} \quad (4)$$

Meanwhile, forward linkages map how changes in the output of sector j affect sectors consuming j 's output for their own respective production. This relies on a supply-driven input-output analysis and makes use of the Ghosh inverse. The forward linkage of sector i in economy r is calculated by taking the row sum of the Ghosh inverse matrix, denoted as

$$fl_{(i,r)} = \sum_{j=1}^N g_{(i,j,r)} \quad (5)$$

Equations 2 to 5 form the basic structure for multipliers and linkages used in input-output analysis. Overall, multipliers provide a useful picture of how changes in one portion of the economy translate into increases in output. Analogously, this concept can be extended to other economic variables. To measure the aggregate income generated by an exogenous increase in final demand, one can calculate for the simple value-added multiplier

$$vb_{(j,r)} = \sum_{i=1}^N v_{(j,r)} b_{(i,j,r)} \quad (6)$$

where $v_{(j,r)}$ is a vector of value-added per unit of output in economy r sector j . By multiplying elements of the Leontief inverse to the value-added vector, one derives the value-added produced by exogenous changes in final demand (Miller and Blair 2009; Ten Raa 2006; Oosterhaven 2019). Analogously, employment generated by increases in final demand is captured by employment multipliers,

$$eb_{(j,r)} = \sum_{i=1}^N e_{(j,r)} b_{(i,j,r)} \quad (7)$$

where $e_{(j,r)}$ is vector containing the labor per unit of output produced in economy r sector j (Oosterhaven 2019; Ten Raa 2006).

In an interregional context, changes in one sector in a given economy results in changes not just in the economy in question but can have resulting effects in other regions. Hence, the concept of linkages and multipliers can be analyzed in a global context by looking at the intraregional transfer multiplier, interregional spillover multiplier, and interregional feedback multiplier. Assuming a two-region global economy denoted by r and s , the Leontief inverse matrix B is redefined as the product of three matrixes:

$$B = M_3 \times M_2 \times M_1 \quad (8)$$

Here, the intraregional transfer multiplier is denoted by M_1 . This represents the amount of output that the domestic sectors should produce in order to satisfy any increase in final demand for any commodity anywhere in the global economy. Meanwhile, the interregional spillover multiplier, denoted by M_2

captures the direct and indirect changes in output in other regions resulting from an increase in final demand in any given economy-sector. The final matrix, M_3 , measures the interregional feedback multiplier. This accounts for the demand of an economy-sector for its own product arising from the production of commodities that the economy-sector in question requires for its own production process (Miller and Blair 2009). Denoting I as the identity matrix and O as the zero matrix, these matrixes are constructed as follows:

$$M_1 = \begin{bmatrix} (I - A_{(r,r)})^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & (I - A_{(s,s)})^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

$$M_2 = \begin{bmatrix} I & (I - A_{(r,r)})^{-1}A_{(r,s)} \\ (I - A_{(s,s)})^{-1}A_{(s,r)} & I \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

$$M_3 = \begin{bmatrix} (I - (I - A_{(r,r)})^{-1}A_{(r,s)}(I - A_{(s,s)})^{-1}A_{(s,r)})^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & (I - (I - A_{(s,s)})^{-1}A_{(s,r)}(I - A_{(r,r)})^{-1}A_{(r,s)})^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (11)$$

One can use Equations 9 to 11 to decompose gross output. Redefining the Leontief inverse as

$$B = I + (M_2 - I) + (M_2M_1 - M_1) + (M_3M_2M_1 - M_2M_1) \quad (12)$$

gross output can be decomposed as

$$\begin{aligned} x &= BY \\ &= IY + (M_1 - I)Y + (M_2M_1 - M_1)Y + (M_3M_2M_1 - M_2M_1)Y \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

By construction, the first two terms capture the direct and indirect intraregional effects, respectively. The term $(M_2M_1 - M_1)Y$ captures the gross output coming from the net interregional effect, while the term $(M_3M_2M_1 - M_2M_1)Y$ denotes the net feedback effect. Overall, the last two terms measure how integrated an economy-sector is to economy-sectors in other regions. This decomposition also extends the concept of output multipliers in a global context, as it can be used to identify where the increase in output happens for any given increase in final demand.

Other indicators associated with multipliers and linkages are listed in Table 8.2.

8.4 International trade and global value chains

GVCs are characterized by fragmentation of different parts of production processes into different economy-sectors across the globe. GVCs have been an integral part of global trade since the 1990s, creating a need for a set of indicators that analyze their movement and evolution over time. This section discusses indicators typically used to measure different aspects of GVCs and international trade.

8.4.1 Value-Added Trade Accounting

Understanding the interconnected production process across the globe implies the need to disentangle direct trading from indirect trading. A way to do so is by decomposing value-added and final demand into activities that can be attributed to domestic sectors, traditional trade, and, finally, simple and complex GVC activities. Wang et al. (2017a) splits Equation 1 into its domestic and foreign component, so that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= A^d x + Y^d + A^f x \\ &= A^d x + Y^d + e \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where A^d contains the domestic elements of the technical coefficient matrix, and A^f denotes the imported intermediates, captured by the off-diagonal matrixes of A . Denoting $L \equiv (I - A^d)$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= (I - A^d)Y^d + (I - A^d)e \\ &= LY^d + Le \\ &= LY^d + LY^f + LA^f x \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Here, Y^d is the vector of final goods associated with domestic consumption, while Y^f is that of foreign consumption. Replacing x in equation 15 with BY from Equation 2 and multiplying both sides of the equation by a diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries correspond to the value-added per unit of output for the relevant economy-sectors (\hat{V}), we obtain the key equations from Wang et al. (2017a):

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{V}B\hat{Y} &= \hat{V}L\hat{Y}^d + \hat{V}L\hat{Y}^f + \hat{V}LA^fB\hat{Y}^f \\ &= \hat{V}L\hat{Y}^d + \hat{V}L\hat{Y}^f + \hat{V}LA^fL\hat{Y}^d + \hat{V}LA^f(B\hat{Y} - L\hat{Y}^d) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

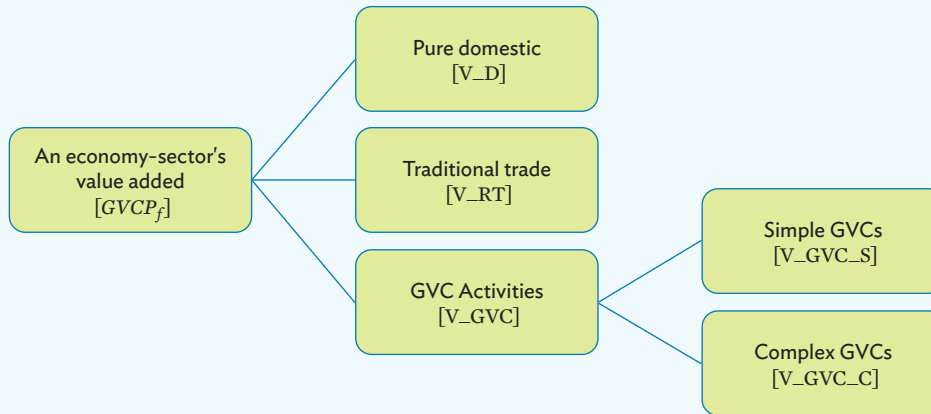
Value added that does not involve cross-border trade is captured by the term $\hat{V}L\hat{Y}^d$ and is denoted as value-added from pure domestic production. Meanwhile, activities associated with traditional trade activities, i.e., value-added contained in exports of final product, are captured by $\hat{V}L\hat{Y}^f$. GVC-related activities are captured by the last two terms. Domestic and/or final value-added that cross national borders only once are simple GVCs and are captured by $\hat{V}LA^fL\hat{Y}^d$. Meanwhile, activities involving several cross-border production processes involve value-added from complex GVCs and are captured by $\hat{V}LA^f(B\hat{Y} - L\hat{Y}^d)$.

Obtaining the sum of the rows of Equation 16 traces where value-added is absorbed through upstream activities. Replacing the diagonal matrix \hat{Y} with a vector Y , Equation 16 can be expressed as

$$Va^T = \hat{V}BY = \hat{V}LY^d + \hat{V}LY^f + \hat{V}LA^fLY^d + \hat{V}LA^f(BY - LY^d) \quad (17)$$

where an element of $Va = \{Va_j\}_{j=1}^N$ corresponds to the gross value-added of sector j . Thus, where value added is absorbed can be decomposed into pure domestic, traditional trade, and GVC activities, as illustrated in Figure 8.1. The term $\hat{V}LA^fLY^d$ captures simple GVCs based on forward linkages (V_GVC_S) while the term $\hat{V}LA^f(BY - LY^d)$ corresponds to complex GVCs based on forward linkages (V_GVC_C).

Figure 8.1: Decomposition of Value-Added by Sector Based on Forward Linkages



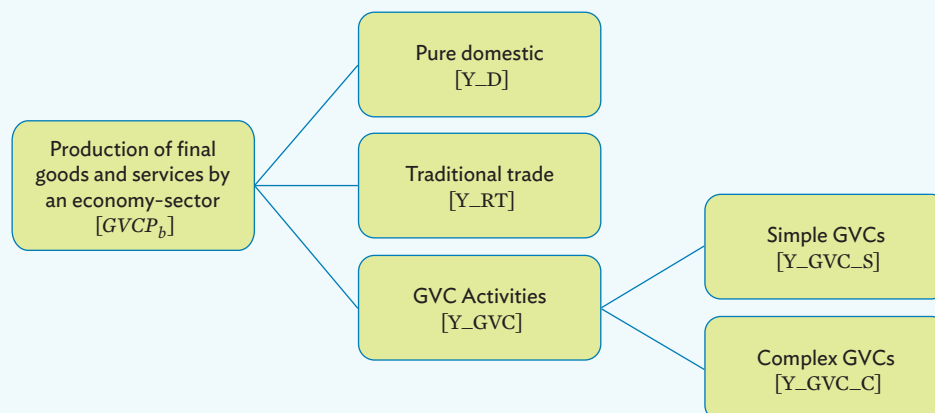
GVC = global value chain.

Source: Z. Wang, S. J. Wei, X. Yu, and K. Zhu. 2017. Measures of Participation in Global Value Chains and Global Business Cycles. *NBER Working Paper*. No. 23222. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.

Meanwhile, taking the sum for each column of Equation 16 gives the final demand for each sector. By replacing \hat{V} with the vector V , one can decompose final demand by the source of value-added. Thus,

$$Y = VB\hat{Y} = VL\hat{Y}^d + VL\hat{Y}^f + VLA^fL\hat{Y}^d + VLA^f(B\hat{Y} - L\hat{Y}^d) \quad (18)$$

Equation 18 decomposes final goods into pure domestic, traditional trade, and GVC activities, according to where its value-added comes from. This is illustrated in Figure 8.2. As with the previous figure, the term $\hat{V}LA^fL\hat{Y}^d$ depicts simple GVCs based on backward linkages (Y_GVC_S) while $\hat{V}LA^f(B\hat{Y} - L\hat{Y}^d)$ captures complex GVCs based on backward linkages (Y_GVC_C).

Figure 8.2: Decomposition of Value-Added by Sector Based on Backward Linkages

GVC = global value chain.

Source: Z. Wang, S. J. Wei, X. Yu, and K. Zhu. 2017. Measures of Participation in Global Value Chains and Global Business Cycles. *NBER Working Paper*. No. 23222. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.

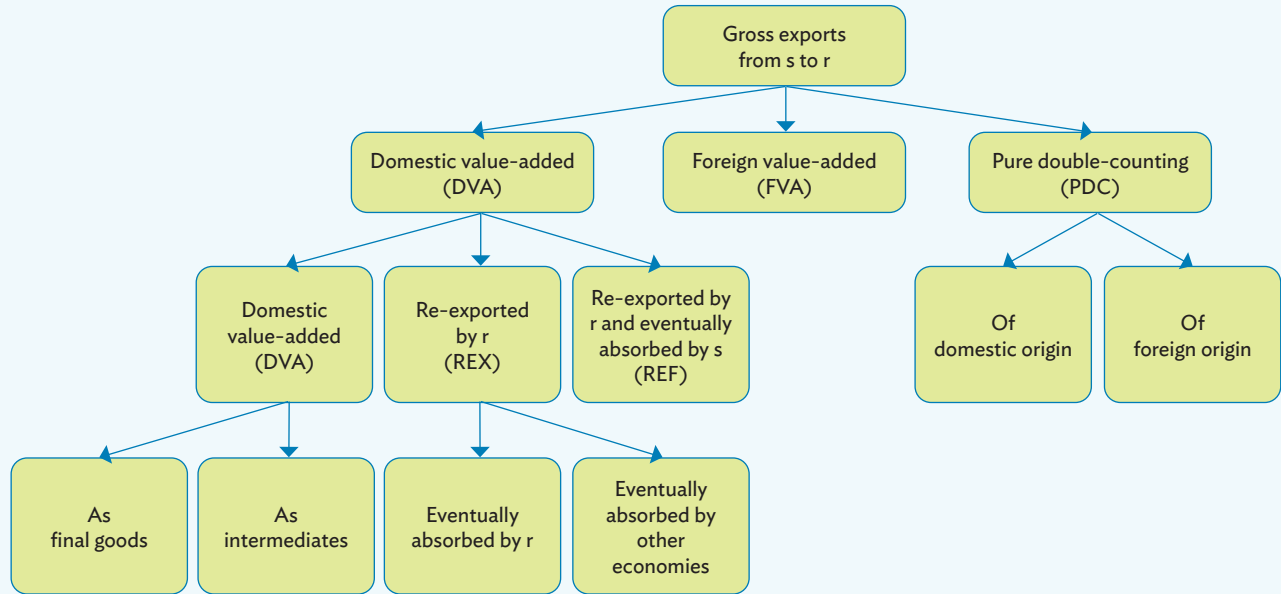
8.4.2 Export Decomposition

Measures of international trade form the baseline in any GVC analysis. At the core are measures of exports and imports in any economy, which take on various forms:

- Gross imports and exports (in millions of United States dollars), which indicate the size of foreign trade in absolute terms (UN 2018)
- Exports and imports as a percentage of GDP, which measure the relative size of international trade to other macroeconomic variables (UN 2018)
- Export and import activity by end-use category, which disaggregate export and import levels into intermediate use and final use (UN 2018).

The specification of these and other trade-based indicators are listed in Table 8.2.

Traditional measures of exports, however, do not take into account production sharing networks and hence are not adjusted to account for double-counting. This inflates the size of exports and consequently overstates the importance of exports in any economy. Addressing this issue involves using a value-added approach to decompose gross exports. Wang et al. (2018) extended the work of Koopman et al. (2014) and decomposed exports into domestic value-added (DVA), foreign value-added (FVA), and pure double-counting. Their framework is presented in Figure 8.3. DVA is further decomposed into value-added that is directly absorbed by the importer and value-added that is later reexported. These are also decomposed according to the destination of value-added.

Figure 8.3: Export Decomposition Framework


Sources: Adapted from A. Borin and M. Mancini. 2019. Measuring What Matters in Global Value Chains and Value-Added Trade. *Policy Research Working Paper*. No. 8804. Washington, DC: World Bank.; and Asian Development Bank. 2021. *Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2021*. Manila.

Denoting B^d as a square matrix whose $N \times N$ blocked diagonal elements correspond to the domestic components of B , the matrix $B^{\sim s} \equiv (I - A^s)^{-1}$ is a modified version of B^d . Specifically, $B^{\sim s}$ assumes that the use of intermediate inputs from economy s is limited to economy s ; however, economy s can use inputs from other economies. Thus, the t^{th} block matrix in column s of the Leontief inverse can be expressed as

$$B_{(t,s)} = B_{(t,s)}^{\sim s} + B_{(t,s)}^{\sim s} \sum_{s \neq u} A_{(s,u)} B_{(u,s)} \quad (19)$$

The previous can be used to disaggregate exports from economy s to economy r as

$$\begin{aligned} E_{(s,r)} &= v_s B_{(s,s)}^{\sim s} e_{(s,r)} + \sum_{t \neq s} v_t B_{(s,s)}^{\sim s} e_{(s,r)} + \sum_t v_t B_{(s,s)}^{\sim s} A_{(s,u)} B_{(u,s)} e_{(s,r)} \\ &= DVA_{(s,r)} + FVA_{(s,r)} + PDC_{(s,r)} \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

The first term, DVA, can be decomposed into exports to economy r directly absorbed in the same economy, denoted as $DAVAX_{(s,r)}$ and reexports from economy r that eventually end up somewhere else. Mathematically, this is calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} DVA_{(s,r)} &= v_s B_{(s,s)}^{\sim s} (y_{(s,r)} + A_{(s,r)} B_{(r,r)}^d y_{(r,r)} + A_{(s,r)} B_{(r,r)}^d y_{e(r,*)}) \\ &= DAVAX_{(s,r)} + \text{reexports} \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The last term can further be disaggregated into exports that end up back in economy s , denoted as $REF_{(s,r)}$, and exports that end up elsewhere, denoted as $REF_{(s,r)}$. Thus, the previous equation can be reexpressed as

$$\begin{aligned}
 DVA_{(s,r)} &= v_s B_{(s,s)}^{\sim s} (y_{(s,r)} + A_{(s,r)} B_{(r,r)}^d y_{(r,r)}) \\
 &+ v_s B_{(s,s)}^{\sim s} A_{(s,r)} B_{(r,r)}^d \left(\sum_{u \neq r,s} y_{(r,u)} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \sum_{u \neq r} A_{(r,u)} \left(\sum_k \sum_{l \neq s,r} B_{(u,k)} Y_{(k,l)} + \sum_k B_{(u,k)} Y_{(k,r)} \right) \right) \\
 &+ v_s B_{(s,s)}^{\sim s} A_{(s,r)} B_{(r,r)}^d \left[y_{(r,s)} + \sum_{u \neq r} A_{(r,u)} \sum_k B_{(u,k)} Y_{(k,s)} \right] \\
 &= DAVAX_{(s,r)} + REX_{(s,r)} + REF_{(s,r)}
 \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

Here, each component is further subdivided into two i.e., DAVAX1, DAVAX2, etc. Decomposing the FVA is analogous and is omitted in this note. Further details are provided in Borin and Mancini (2019).

8.4.3 Global Value Chain Participation

The results from export decomposition can be used to define other GVC indicators. One of these indicators includes the GVC participation rate. From its name, this measures the extent to which different economy-sectors are participating in GVCs. Two measures are used in this publication. First, the trade-based GVC participation is rooted in cross-border trade and defines GVC-related activities as those involving products that cross at least two borders prior to final consumption (Yi 2003). Using the approach of Borin and Mancini (2019), the backward measure of GVC exports, ($GVCX_{(s,r)}^{backward}$), captures the import content of export, while the forward measure of GVC exports, ($GVCX_{(s,r)}^{forward}$), captures exports reexported by partners. Mathematically, this is calculated as

$$\begin{aligned}
 GVCX_{(s,r)}^{backward} &= FVA_{(s,r)} + PDC_{(s,r)} \\
 GVCX_{(s,r)}^{forward} &= REX_{(s,r)} + REF_{(s,r)}
 \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Hence, the trade-based GVC participation can be expressed as

$$GVCX_{(s,r)}^{trade} = \frac{GVCX_{(s,r)}^{backward}}{e_{(s,r)}} + \frac{GVCX_{(s,r)}^{forward}}{e_{(s,r)}} \tag{24}$$

The second measure is based on Wang et al. (2017b), who suggested the production-based GVC participation, rooted in value-added associated with intermediate goods. It is defined as

$$GVCX_{(s,r)}^{\text{production}} = \frac{\sum_{r \neq s} DAVAX2_{(s,r)} + REX_{(s,r)} + REF_{(s,r)}}{e_{(s,r)}} \quad (25)$$

8.4.4 Revealed Comparative Advantage

The export decomposition framework can also be used to obtain indicators associated with trade specialization. Comparative advantage from Ricardian theory posits differences in productivity as the main driver of patterns of trade across economies (UNCTAD 2019). A commonly used measure is the traditional revealed comparative advantage ($RCA^{\text{Traditional}}$),

$$RCA_{(s,r)}^{\text{traditional}} = \frac{e_{(j,r^*)} / \sum_{j=1}^N e_{(j,r^*)}}{\sum_{t=1}^G e_{(j,t^*)} / \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{t=1}^G e_{(j,t^*)}} \quad (26)$$

where the numerator refers to the export share of total exports in sector j to the total exports of economy r , and the denominator represents the export share of sector j to world exports.

An alternative measure (also referred in previous chapters as new revealed comparative advantage) arises from the export decomposition framework previously discussed. Defining value-added exports (VAX) as exports of domestic value-added eventually absorbed abroad as

$$VAX_{(s,r)} = DAVAX_{(s,r)} + REX_{(s,r)} \quad (27)$$

the value-added adjusted revealed comparative advantage ($RCA_{(s,r)}^{\text{va}}$) becomes

$$RCA_{(s,r)}^{\text{va}} = \frac{VAX_{(j,r)} / VAX_r}{\sum_{r=1}^G VAX_{(j,r)} / \sum_{r=1}^G VAX_r} \quad (28)$$

8.4.5 Position in Global Value Chains

Other indicators describe an economy-sector’s position in GVCs. Defining upstreamness by a sector’s tendency to undergo several stages of production before the product is consumed in its final use, a measure of upstreamness describes the distance of a sector from its final use (Miller and Temurshoev 2017). A basic measure of upstreamness involves looking at the share of gross output absorbed as final use. Antras and Chor (2018) provide an alternative measure of upstreamness ($U_{(j,r)}$) by taking the average distance of a sector from its final use, which is calculated as follows:

$$U_{(j,r)} = \frac{Y_{(j,r)}}{X_{(j,r)}} + 2 \frac{\sum_{s=1}^G \sum_{i=1}^N a_{(i,j,s,r)} Y_{(j,r)}}{X_{(j,r)}} + 3 \frac{\sum_{s=1}^G \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{t=1}^G \sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^N a_{(i,j,s,r)} a_{(i,k,s,t)} Y_{(k,t)}}{X_{(j,r)}} + \dots \tag{29}$$

where $a_{(i,j,s,r)}$ is an element from the technical coefficient matrix and describes how much output from economy s ’s sector i is required to produce \$1 worth of output in economy r sector j . Apart from upstreamness, position in GVCs can also be described by looking at production lengths. Antras and Chor (2013) pioneered the use of IOTs in measuring production lengths. Their approach was further developed by Wang et al. (2017b). Using the latter, backward measures of average production length capture the relative downstreamness of an economy by looking at the average number of upstream processes prior to the final product’s absorption in the economy. Mathematically, this is calculated as

$$PL_y = \frac{VBB\hat{Y}}{VB\hat{Y}} = uB \tag{30}$$

An analogous measure based on forward linkages can be constructed as

$$PL_u = \frac{\hat{V}BBY}{\hat{V}BY} = Gu^T \tag{31}$$

The forward measure of average production length captures the number of downstream processes that are incorporated in an economy’s gross output. As such, this measures the relative upstreamness of an economy-sector. Related indicators are listed in Table 8.2.

8.5 Domestic Agglomeration

The concept of agglomeration, often used in economic geography, can be used to measure the extent to which economic activities cluster in the domestic economy. The framework builds on the value-added decomposition framework discussed in Section 8.4.1. Denote $\Theta_{(j,r,t)} = Y_{(j,r,t)}^D / Y_{(j,r,t)}$ as the share of the domestic sectors to the total value of final goods production in economy r sector j at time t . The backward agglomeration index of sector j in economy r , $AGG_{(j,r,t)}^B$, captures domestic production for domestic consumption and is defined as

$$AGG_{(j,r,t)}^B = \frac{\Theta_{(j,r,t)}}{\sum_{\tau=t-1}^t \sum_{r=1}^G 0.5\gamma_{(j,r,\tau)} \Theta_{(j,r,\tau)}} \quad (32)$$

where $\gamma_{(j,r,\tau)} \in (0,1)$ is the share of economy r to the total global output of sector j . The numerator is the share of final goods consumed domestically in (j,r) whose value-added comes from the domestic sectors in the total final demand for (j,r) . By construction, the backward agglomeration index captures the share of Y^D to Y against the global average for that sector. A value of $AGG_{(j,r,t)}^B > 1$ implies that the value-added coming from the domestic sectors in the final goods production of sector j in economy r is higher than the world average, implying high backward agglomeration.

The forward agglomeration index has a similar structure. Let $\Phi_{(j,r,t)} = V_{(j,r,t)}^D / Va_{(j,r,t)}$ be the share of value-added generated in (j,r) that is absorbed domestically as final goods. The forward agglomeration index of sector j in economy r , $AGG_{(j,r,t)}^F$ is defined as

$$AGG_{(j,r,t)}^F = \frac{\Phi_{(j,r,t)}}{\sum_{\tau=t-1}^t \sum_{r=1}^G 0.5\gamma_{(j,r,\tau)} \Phi_{(j,r,\tau)}} \quad (33)$$

A value of $AGG_{(j,r,t)}^F > 1$ implies that the final goods of economy-sector (j,r) generates more value-added to the domestic sectors relative to the global average for that sector. Consequently, this indicates high forward agglomeration.

8.6 Supplementary Indicators

Other indicators that can be modeled from national and multiregional input-output tables are specified in Table 8.2. For more in-depth discussion, readers are encouraged to review the papers and documentation from each corresponding author(s) of these analytical indicators.

Table 8.2: Supplementary Input-Output Indicators

Indicator	Description	Notation
Multiplier Effects		
Sectoral output multiplier	This shows the impact of a dollar's worth of a sectors final demand (row sector i) for another sectors output (column sector j). It is the Leontief inverse matrix itself (Miller and Blair 2009).	$B = (I - A)^{-1}$
Type 1 value-added multiplier	This is calculated as the sum of the ratio of the total value-added and total output of a sector divided by the simple value-added multiplier. Intuitively, this captures how much the initial effects on value-added are expanded when direct and indirect effects of a change in final demand are considered (Miller and Blair 2009).	$vb_{(j,r)}^I = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N va_{(j,r)} b_{(i,j,r)}}{va_{(j,r)}}$
First-round effects	This captures the increase in intermediate input requirements for a unit increase in the production of output. It is calculated as just the column sum of the technical coefficients matrix $A = \{a_{ij}\}_{i,j \in N}$. Direct effects for sector j are denoted as d_j (Miller and Blair 2009; Oosterhaven 2019).	$d_j = \sum_{i=1}^N a_{(i,j)}$
Industrial support effects	This measures the indirect effects and the effects of induced production. It is calculated as the difference between the simple output multiplier, the initial effect (usually set equal to 1), and the first-round effects (Oosterhaven 2019).	
Production-induced effects	This measures additional output required from other sectors to produce the initial unit of extra output to meet the increase in final demand and all subsequent induced output. To calculate, take the sum of the first-round and industrial support effect, or the difference of the simple output multiplier and the initial effect (Oosterhaven 2019).	
Linkages		
Direct backward linkage	This provides a direct measure of a sector's dependence on the supply of inputs across several sectors. This captures the first-round effects on gross output and an increase in a sector's final demand.	
Direct forward linkage	This provides a direct measure of a sector's dependence on the intersectoral demand for inputs. This represents the supply-side analog of the direct backward linkage.	
Complete hypothetical extraction backward linkage	This adjusts the backward linkage measure for self-dependency. Sectors with high backward linkages and high self-dependence will result in smaller overall effects in the economy, given an exogenous change in final demand. It is the ratio of the total backward linkage and the corresponding diagonal element in the Leontief inverse B (Miller and Blair 2009).	$bl_{(j,r)}^{HC} = \frac{bl_{(j,r)}}{b_{(j,j)}}$
Complete hypothetical extraction forward linkage	This adjusts the forward linkage measure for self-dependency. Sectors with high forward linkages and high self-dependence will result in smaller overall effects in the economy, given an exogenous change in production. It is the ratio of the total forward linkage and the corresponding diagonal element in the Ghosh inverse G (Miller and Blair 2009).	$fl_{(i,r)}^{HC} = \frac{fl_{(i,r)}}{g_{(i,i)}}$
Partial hypothetical extraction backward linkage	This indicator adjusts total backward linkages for self-dependency to isolate upstream linkages. Specifically, it sets apart the input column of sector j from the technical coefficient matrix, as well as sector j 's final demand (Oosterhaven 2019).	$bl_{(j,r)}^{HP} = \frac{bl_{(j,r)} - 1}{b_{(j,j)}}$

continued on next page.

Table 8.2 continued.

Indicator	Description	Notation
Partial hypothetical extraction forward linkage	This indicator adjusts total forward linkages for self-dependency to isolate downstream linkages. Specifically, it sets apart the input row of sector i from the technical coefficient matrix, as well as sector i 's value-added (Oosterhaven 2019).	$fl_{(i,r)}^{HP} = \frac{fl_{(i,r)} - 1}{g_{(i,i)}}$
Absolute impact of sector's hypothetical extraction	This measures the economic impact (loss) from hypothetical extraction of sector j 's sales and purchases from the input-output table (Miller and Blair 2009). The respective columns and rows of sector j is nullified (or replaced with zeroes) in the technical coefficients matrix, yielding $A^{(j)}$. Similarly, this nullifying of respective entries corresponding to sector j is performed for the value-added coefficients matrix, $V^{(j)}$, and final demand vector, $Y^{(j)}$. Using these input-output components, hypothetical value-added $\bar{va}_{(j)}$ in the economy without sector j is evaluated. The absolute difference between actual va and hypothetical gross value-added $\bar{va}_{(j)}$ is considered an absolute measure of sector j 's linkages with the economy.	Sector's total linkage impact is the absolute difference of $ va - \bar{va}_{(j)} $ where $\bar{va}_{(j)} = V^{(j)}(I - A^{(j)})^{-1}Y^{(j)}$
Relative impact of sector's hypothetical extraction	From above, the relative impact of sector's hypothetical extraction is simply the absolute difference divided by the baseline economy-wide gross value-added (Miller and Blair 2009).	Sector's relative linkage impact is given as $\frac{ va - \bar{va}_{(j)} }{va}$
Net backward linkage	The net backward linkage adjusts the original measure of backward linkages to account for the "two-sided nature of sectoral dependence." This is done by multiplying total backward linkages of sector j ($bl_{(j,r)}$) with its final output ratio ($\frac{y_{(j,r)}}{x_{(j,r)}}$) (Oosterhaven 2019).	$bl_{(j,r)}^{net} = (bl_{(j,r)}) \frac{y_{(j,r)}}{x_{(j,r)}}$
Net forward linkage	The net forward linkage adjusts the original measure of forward linkages to account for the "two-sided nature of sectoral dependence." This is done by multiplying total forward linkages of sector i ($fl_{(i,r)}$) with its primary input ratio ($\frac{va_{(i,r)}}{x_{(i,r)}}$) (Oosterhaven 2019).	$fl_{(i,r)}^{net} = (fl_{(i,r)}) \frac{va_{(i,r)}}{x_{(i,r)}}$
Backward import multiplier	This measures how much production is attributed to activities outside the economy r due to an exogenous change in final demand in sector j in economy r . It is calculated from the column sums of the matrix A^f ($I - A^d$) ⁻¹ , where A^f corresponds to the imported intermediates in matrix A , while A^d refers to the domestic components of matrix A (Miller and Blair 2009).	Column sums of $A^f (I - A^d)^{-1}$
Forward import multiplier	This measures how much production is attributed to activities outside the economy r due to an exogenous change in primary inputs available for sector j in economy r . It is calculated from the row sums of the matrix $(I - O^d)^{-1} O^f$, where O^f corresponds to the allocation coefficients from the imported intermediates in matrix, while O^d refers to the domestic components of the allocation coefficient matrix O (Miller and Blair 2009).	Row sums of $(I - O^d)^{-1} O^f$
International Trade Indicators		
Self-sufficiency ratio	This measures the ratio of internal demand for product i to total output of domestic sector i . This is calculated by taking the sum of the intermediate inputs purchased by sector i from sector j (irrespective of origin) ($\sum_{j=1}^N z_{(i,j,r^*)}$), the final consumption of sector i 's products within r ($y_{(i,r^*)}$), and the total exports of sector i ($e_{(i)}$), and obtaining its share of the total gross output of sector i .	$\frac{\sum_{j=1}^N z_{(i,j,r^*)} + y_{(i,r^*)} - e_{(i)}}{x_i}$

continued on next page.

Table 8.2 continued.

Indicator	Description	Notation
Export-to-output ratio	This is a measure of the export orientation of a producing sector. It is the ratio of sector i 's exported output to its total output.	$\frac{e_{(i,r)}}{x_{(i,r)}}$
	Aggregation on an economy level can be undertaken by taking the sum of all sectoral exported outputs and dividing it by economy-wide output.	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N e_{(i,r)}}{\sum_{i=1}^N x_{(i,r)}}$
Import-to-input ratio	This is a measure of the import dependence of a purchasing sector's production. It is the ratio of sector j 's imported inputs of all products i to n from all partners s to G to its total inputs or outlays.	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N z_{(i,j,r,s)}}{x_{(i,r)}}$
	Aggregation on an economy level can be undertaken by taking the sum of all sectoral imported inputs and dividing it by economy-wide output.	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N z_{(i,r,s)}}{\sum_{i=1}^N x_{(i,r)}}$
Trade openness	This measure is simply derived as the sum of export and imports divided by the total gross domestic product of an economy.	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N e_{(i,r)} + \sum_{j=1}^N m_{(j,r)}}{GDP}$
Domestic input share in intermediate inputs	This captures the domestic component of a sector's intermediate inputs.	$\frac{z_{(i,j,r)}}{x_{(i,r)}}$
	Aggregation on an economy level can be undertaken by taking the sum of the domestically sourced inputs of all sectors and dividing it by economy-wide intermediate inputs.	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N z_{(i,j,r)}}{\sum_{i=1}^N x_{(i,r)}}$
Foreign input share in intermediate inputs	This captures the foreign component of a sector's intermediate inputs. It is equivalent to the import-to-input ratio.	$\frac{\sum_{s \neq r} \sum_{i=1}^N z_{(i,j,s,r)}}{x_{(i,r)}}$
	Aggregation on an economy level can be undertaken by taking the sum of the foreign-sourced inputs of all sectors and dividing it by economy-wide intermediate inputs.	$\frac{\sum_{s \neq r} \sum_{i=1}^N z_{(i,j,s,r)}}{\sum_{i=1}^N x_{(i,r)}}$
Global Value Chains		
Backward production length, domestic segment	This captures the intermediate inputs generated by a unit increase in final demand of a sector throughout all the upstream sectors of the economy that does not involve any cross-border trade (Wang et al. 2017).	$PL_y^d = \frac{VBB\hat{Y}^d}{VB\hat{Y}^d}$
Backward production length, GVC segment	This captures the intermediate inputs generated by a unit increase in final demand of a sector throughout the upstream sectors of all importing partners (Wang et al. 2017).	$PL_y^{GVC} = \frac{VLLA^f B\hat{Y}}{VLA^f B\hat{Y}} + \frac{VLLA^f BB\hat{Y}}{VLA^f B\hat{Y}}$
Forward production length, domestic segment	This captures the gross output generated by a unit increase in the primary inputs of a sector throughout all the downstream sectors of the economy that does not involve any cross-border trade (Wang et al. 2017).	$PL_v^d = \hat{V}BBY^d / \hat{V}BY^d$
Forward production length, GVC segment	This captures the gross output generated by a unit increase in the primary inputs of a sector throughout the downstream sectors of all importing partners (Wang et al. 2017).	$PL_v^{GVC} = \frac{\hat{V}LLA^f BY}{\hat{V}LA^f BY} + \frac{\hat{V}LLA^f BBY}{\hat{V}LA^f BY}$

GVC = global value chain.

Sources: Compilation of the Asian Development Bank Input-Output Study Team; R.E. Miller and P.D. Blair. 2009. *Input-Output Analysis: Foundations and Extensions* (second edition). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press; J. Oosterhaven. 2019. *Rethinking Input-Output Analysis: A Spatial Perspective*. SpringerBriefs in Regional Science. Springer, Cham.; and Z. Wang, S. J. Wei, X. Yu, and K. Zhu. 2017. Measures of Participation in Global Value Chains and Global Business Cycles. *NBER Working Paper*. No. 23222. Cambridge, MA: National Bureau of Economic Research.

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Appendix

Reference Guide to Mathematical Notations

Table A8.1: List of Mathematical Notations for Input–Output Indicators

Indicator Name	Mathematical Notation
Exports	e
Total final demand	Y
Gross output	x
Gross value-added	GVA
Imports	m
Intermediate consumption	Z
Technical coefficients matrix	A
Domestic elements of the technical coefficients matrix	A^d
Imported elements of the technical coefficients matrix	A^f
Leontief inverse matrix	B
Allocation coefficients matrix	O
Domestic elements of the allocation coefficients matrix	O^d
Imported elements of the allocation coefficients matrix	O^f
Ghosh matrix	G
VBY matrix	VBY
Value-added of a sector	va_j
Simple output multiplier	$mo_{(j,r)}$
Backward linkage	$bl_{(j,r)}$
Forward linkage	$fl_{(i,r)}$
Complete hypothetical extraction backward linkage	$bl_{(j,r)}^{HC}$
Complete hypothetical extraction forward linkage	$fl_{(j,r)}^{HC}$
Partial hypothetical extraction backward linkage	$bl_{(j,r)}^{HP}$
Partial hypothetical extraction forward linkage	$il_{(j,r)}^{HP}$
Absolute impact of sector's hypothetical extraction	$\overline{va}(j)$
Net backward linkage	$bl_{(j,r)}^{net}$
Net forward linkage	$fl_{(i,r)}^{net}$
Simple value-added multiplier	$vb_{(j,r)}$
Employment multiplier	$eb_{(j,r)}$

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Table A8.1 *continued.*

Indicator Name	Mathematical Notation
Intraregional transfer multiplier	M_1
Interregional spillover multiplier	M_2
Interregional feedback multiplier	M_3
Type 1 value-added multiplier	$vb_{(j,r)}^I$
First-round effects	d_j
Domestic value-added	DVA
Foreign value-added	FVA
Pure double-counting	PDC
Value-added directly absorbed by economy r	DAVAX
Value-added reexported by economy r	REX
Value-added reexported by economy r and eventually absorbed by s	REF
Trade-based backward GVC participation	$GVCX_{(s,r)}^{backward}$
Trade-based forward GVC participation	$GVCX_{(s,r)}^{forward}$
Trade-based GVC participation	$GVCX_{(s,r)}^{trade}$
Production-based GVC participation	$GVCX_{(s,r)}^{production}$
Value-added exports	$VAX_{(s,r)}$
Value-added adjusted revealed comparative advantage	$RCA_{(s,r)}^{va}$
Traditional revealed comparative advantage	$RCA_{(s,r)}^{traditional}$
Upstreamness	$U_{(j,r)}$
Backward measure of average production length	PL_y
Forward measure of average production length	PL_u
Backward production length, domestic segment	PL_y^d
Backward production length, GVC segment	PL_y^{GVC}
Forward production length, domestic segment	PL_v^d
Forward production length, GVC segment	PL_v^{GVC}
Backward agglomeration index	$AGG_{(j,r,t)}^B$
Forward agglomeration index	$AGG_{(j,r,t)}^F$

GVC = global value chain;

Source: Compiled by the Asian Development Bank Input–Output Study Team.

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Economic Insights from Input–Output Tables for Asia and the Pacific

This publication features a broad suite of statistical indicators characterizing the supply-and-use interactions of economic sectors within and across 25 economies of Asia and the Pacific. The indicators include sector- and economy-specific multipliers and linkages, trade orientation and openness, participation in global value chains, patterns of product specialization, and domestic agglomeration, among many others. Supplementing these analyses are special chapters on the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the contribution of the digital economy, and the significance of activities related to real estate. All analyses and indicators draw on the Multiregional Input–Output database maintained by the Asian Development Bank.

About the Asian Development Bank

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members—49 from the region. Its main instruments for helping its developing member countries are policy dialogue, loans, equity investments, guarantees, grants, and technical assistance.

